

15-1941

ALABAMA

News
Birmingham, Ala.

Burglars Go On Daring Spree, Breaking Store Windows To Get Loot

FEB 18 1941

Police, However, Make One Good Catch, Nabbing Two Negroes For Robbery

Daring burglars shattered plate glass windows of several stores, a cafe and other business establishments Monday night in a series of burglaries far more brazen and widespread than those of any other night in recent months.

A heavy loot was taken.

Police placed on the credit side of the ledger, however, arrest off from the electric chair through accusation of the United States Supreme Court the night of Jan. 30, were pressed Monday in the Alabama Supreme Court.

Striking near the downtown area, burglars smashed the front plate glass window of the Betros Cafe, 324 South Twenty-First Street, between 3 a.m. and 5 a.m. Tuesday, taking 20 one-half pints of liquor, a box of cigars, 10 cartons of cigarettes and 150 pennies, a total loot of \$49.

At the A. & P. Store located at 5222 Georgia Road, the thieves took cigarettes, a large ham and other loot while next door the management of the Hill Grocery Store, 5218 Georgia Road, reported a plate glass window also smashed and an undetermined amount of cigarettes and other stock stolen.

The two Negroes taken to Southside Jail on robbery charges were identified by City Detectives Norrell and McGuire as John L. Lane, 521 South Forty-Seventh Street, and T. C. Ballard, 4607 Third Avenue, South.

Arrested by Radio Patrol Officers Ballard and Stewart and turned over to the detectives for further investigation, the two are charged with robbery of Claude Russell and Sherman Smith, Negroes, both of whom have kept Vernon alive.

The pair in custody also is charged with robbery of Mose Ramsey, Negro, 3117 Seventh Avenue, South, when \$6.90 and a hat was taken. A pistol was used in all three robberies, the detectives said.

Burglars who broke the lock from the front door of a store at 118 Falls Avenue, Pratt City, Monday night got only two pennies and four packages of cigarettes for their efforts.

J. E. Pearce, connected with the State Department of Internal Revenue, and a companion, J. B. Cunningham, of Aliceville, Ala., both reported their overcoats stolen from an auto parked near a downtown hotel where Mr. Pearce stays while in the city.

Sam Giangroso, of 1100 North Fifteenth Street, reported thieves smashed the front plate glass window of his combination store and residence and took \$33, three cartons of cigarettes and 30 pennies.

Birmingham, Ala. News
February 17, 1941

State Supreme Court Hears Another Appeal For Reprieved Negro

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—(P)—Further efforts to save the life of Joe Vernon, snatched almost literally from the electric chair through action of the United States Supreme Court the night of Jan. 30, were pressed Monday in the Alabama Supreme Court.

And with Vernon's hopes were linked those of L. C. Bell, convicted with him in the robbery-slaying of Bennie Montgomery, Birmingham filling station attendant, in 1937.

The state Supreme Court scheduled for hearing Monday an appeal from a Montgomery Circuit decision denying a writ of habeas corpus for Vernon, sought on grounds Negroes were excluded from the Grand Jury that indicted him.

The Circuit Court's denial of a habeas corpus writ and stay of execution came Jan. 30, and on the same day this action was affirmed by the state Supreme Court. That night, less than two hours before the two Negroes were to have been electrocuted, the U. S. tribunal granted a stay until Feb. 7.

When that day arrived, Gov. Frank M. Dixon reprieved the men until March 7, to permit further court action.

While Bell's case has not been appealed to the Washington tribunal, his scheduled execution has been postponed by the governor from time to time during various phases of court action which night of Jan. 23 at Forty-Fourth Street and First Avenue, North. Vernon has been represented by Walter Smith, Birmingham lawyer, and L. A. Ransom, Washington.

The pair in custody also is charged with robbery of Mose Ramsey, Negro, 3117 Seventh Avenue, People.

Burglars who broke the lock from the front door of a store at 118 Falls Avenue, Pratt City, Monday night got only two pennies and four packages of cigarettes for their efforts.

Birmingham, Ala. News
February 7, 1941

Detectives Round Up More Than Half Dozen Negroes For Thefts

Robberies Of Filling Stations And Grand Larceny Charges Made

Arrest of more than half a dozen Negroes involved in felonies ranging from robbery of filling stations in the city to theft from autos have been made by City Detectives Gilliland and Weir, a check of police records Friday revealed.

One of the Negroes arrested, John Montgomery, 21, of 7620 London Avenue, who is charged with burglary and grand larceny, was trapped through a stolen street car ticket which another Negro attempted to use in payment of a transportation fare.

The stolen ticket was traced to Montgomery by the two detectives as part of a book of tickets bearing the same number taken from the home of Mrs. T. W. Walker, 728 South Seventy-Ninth Street.

The detectives said they recovered some of the tickets and also some jewelry stolen from the Walker residence, at the home of Montgomery, the arrested Negro.

A trio of Negroes were in custody in connection with several filling station robberies in the city in recent weeks.

They were identified by the detectives as Napoleon Varner, 24, of 2222 Tenth Alley, North, charged with robbery and grand larceny; Curley Brown, 45, of 1210 Seventh Avenue, also charged with robbery and grand larceny, and Rozell Watson, 23, of 1930 North Seventeenth Street, charged with grand larceny.

The detectives said Watson gave himself up to Desk Sgt. Wiseman at Police Headquarters when he heard he was being sought. One of the trio, Curley Brown, the detectives said, was identified by William Streeter, another Negro, as the man who slugged him over the head and assisted in robbing Streeter of \$11 in money and the victim's shoes.

Also implicated in robbery of Streeter, who lives at 725 Sixth Alley, North, was Tom Murphy, 33, Negro, of 1210 Seventh Avenue, North.

Another trio of Negroes arrested by Detectives Gilliland and Weir were placed in Southside Jail by them on charges of grand larceny of an auto in connection with theft from the auto of Aubrey Mansfield, 1628 North Twenty-Ninth Street, a

knife salesman, of knives valued at a total of \$120.

Some of the stolen knives were recovered in their investigation, according to the two detectives, who identified the arrested Negroes as Willie Arington, 18, of 2215 Twenty-Fifth Alley, North; Freddie Hardaway, 21, of 1745 North Tenth Street, and Fletcher Tiggs, 21, of 2205 North Twenty-Second Street, the latter two being arrested in North Birmingham selling the stolen knives, according to the detectives.

TWO MUST DIE FOR MURDER OF WHITE WOMAN

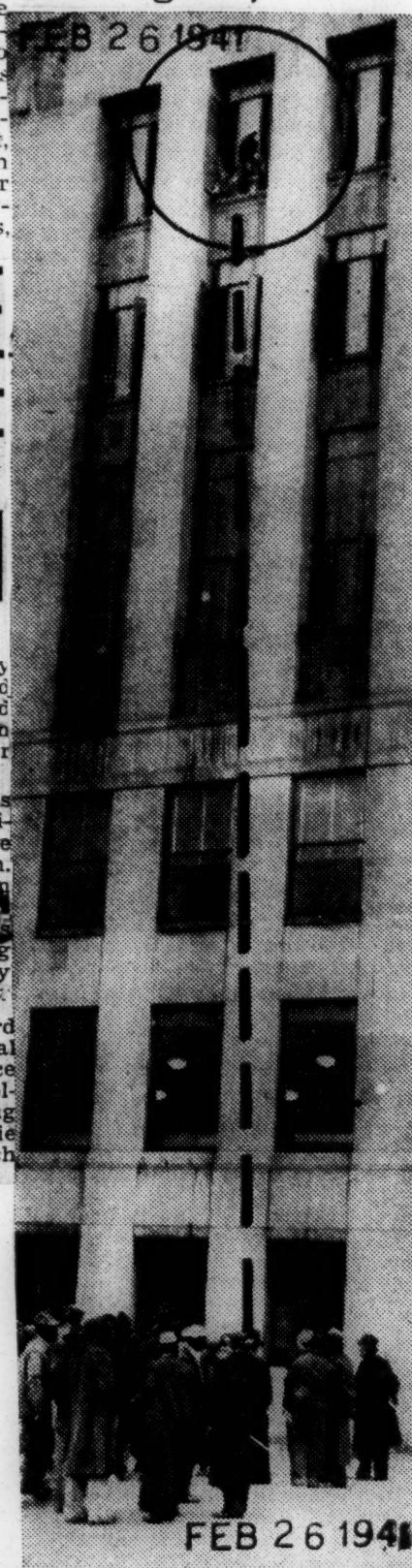
NOV 29 1941

ASHLAND, Ala., Nov. 26—A Clay County circuit court jury has ruled that Albert Lee Craig, 21, and Doc Powell, 27, both must die in the electric chair for the murder of a white woman.

The murdered woman was Miss Mary W. Garrison, white, semi-invalid daughter of former probate and circuit judge E. J. Garrison. The 45-year-old woman had been struck in the head and strangled in the breast, according to Dr. W. G. Price, state medical examiner.

A state guard of highway patrolmen at the trial to prevent any possible violence to the prisoners. Twelve patrolmen were in the courtroom during the hearings. Both men must die January 2, 1942, the jury which heard the case ruled.

News
Birmingham, Ala.



DEATH LEAP—Hurling himself through the glass of a two-foot window on the sixth floor of the Jefferson County Courthouse, James Turner, alias "Buddy" Wade, Negro charged with mur-

der, fell six floors to his death on the concrete pavement below. In the picture above the broken glass of the window through which the Negro hurled himself is plainly visible. The length of his plunge and the place where the body struck are also shown. Turner had been a state witness against another Negro charged with murder in what the state contends was an insurance plot murder. Turner had testified he had been hired to kill the slaying victim.

Handcuffed Prisoner Dies In Six-Floor Leap At Courthouse Here

FEB 26 1941
Defendant In Murder Case Breaks Away And Jumps Out Window To Death

Smashing through the glass of a closed, two-foot wide window on the sixth floor of the courthouse as he fled handcuffed from a court bailiff, James Turner, alias "Buddy" Wade, Negro charged with murder, hurled himself to instant death shortly after noon Wednesday.

He made the leap while being led from the courtroom by Bailiff George Hanks to go upstairs for the midday meal. Turner had been a witness for the state in what state authorities charge was the insurance plot slaying of George McDowell, a miner and operator of a store at Powderly.

Turner had been testifying in the case of Frank Purdue, 46, former manager of the Birmingham Black Barons baseball team, who, the state charges was a principal, along with Lillie McDowell, wife of the slain man, in a plot to collect McDowell's \$3,250 insurance.

The McDowell woman was acquitted by a jury in a trial that began Tuesday.

At the conclusion of the morning's testimony, Bailiff Hanks handcuffed Turner and led him out of the courtroom. Suddenly Turner broke away from the bailiff, jumped a four-foot counter in the office of J. Lloyd Davis, clerk of the criminal division of the Circuit Court, and then hurled himself through the glass of the narrow window in Davis' office.

Courthouse attaches recalled that it was just outside Davis' office three years ago that John Lewis Smith, young Negro, was slain by the father of a young white girl just after Lewis had been sentenced to 99 years in the penitentiary for carnal knowledge of the child.

Turner's body crashed on a concrete driveway just outside the windows in Sheriff Holt A. McDowell's office. He died instantly, officials said.

In the trial of the McDowell woman and Purdue, Turner had testified he had been promised \$200 to kill McDowell, who was slain by a shotgun blast fired from ambush last Nov. 3, as McDowell stood on the porch of his Powderly home. Turner also testified that Purdue had furnished the shotgun and had pointed out McDowell as the victim.

News
Birmingham, Ala.

Cop Was Right—That Man Could Lie!

He Had The Proof Right On Him; 89-Year-Old Former Slave Freed Again, This Time In Slaying

BY JACK HOUSE

"Sheriff, this man is the biggest liar I ever met. I don't believe he could tell the truth if he tried to."

In his frank way of saying things, State Highway Patrolman Lee Burroughs carried his prisoner to County Jail at Gadsden, where he was turned over to Sheriff Henry W. Smith.

"Why, I'll bet my hat that he is the prize liar of the United States," Patrolman Burroughs added, convinced the man he had arrested should be given the limit.

The prisoner had been arrested on charges of driving while intoxicated, leaving the scene of an accident and driving an automobile without a license.

Sheriff Smith took charge of the prisoner and turned him over to the jail keeper.

Going through the customary procedure of searching the prisoner before placing him in jail, the officers found—

A paid-up membership to the National Liars Club, which holds meetings annually and gives prizes to the persons telling the best lies during the closing year.

Patrolman Burroughs was right.

FREED SECOND TIME—Oliver Fitzpatrick, 89-year-old former slave, was acquitted on charges of killing a man over 15 cents, and upon hearing the verdict, said "Lord, boys, I never heard 'you're free' was when the Yankees said it." Before leaving the courtroom at Montgomery, where he was tried, he asked for his shotgun.

ALL LOCKS, NO KEY—Al Still, Lafayette insurance man, barber and justice of the peace, will be satisfied if he never sees another lock. Going to his insurance office above the barber shop, he discovered he had left his key in the barber shop. So he entered his law office through a fellow attorney's office. That night the other attorney left before Mr. Still was ready to leave and Mr. Still then discovered he was locked in. He was late for dinner, but his brother finally rescued him, thanks to the telephone. . . . Louise Richardson, of Blossburg, and Arthur Allbright and Felton Collier attended the state convention of the Association of Postmasters at Mob-

this past week. . . . McKinley (alias Crip) Glover, Gadsden Negro, was arrested Friday for biting off a man's ear.

ODD ACCIDENT—Automobiles and trains are always tying up, but Clyde Ray Smith, 8, of Dothan, was injured in an accident of freak nature. He ran his bicycle into the side of a train and was seriously injured.

GO 'LONG, MULE—George McCain, of Clanton, has a mule that is attracting considerable attention, not because of its size but because of the lack of it. The animal is 2 months old but weighs only 36 pounds. A merchant saw the critter and put him in his show window. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Dan Harrelson, of Jacksonville, recently celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. . . . O. B. Bynum, of Oneonta, thinks that a blackberry briar (or vine) on his farm is the longest blackberry vine he has ever seen. It is 20½ feet long, and that, cut up into inches, is 246 inches. Figuring a scratch for every inch, the bush sure would do some damage. . . . Lee Mixon, of Crossville community, near Vernon, has his own water system on his farm. The pump is electric and cost him less than \$15. For about a half dollar more he can make it automatic, but so far Mr. Mixon sees no reason for doing this.

FRIENDS FROM THE SKY—Airplanes, and not bombs, are dropping from the sky at various places over Alabama, and these various places aren't air fields. One made a forced landing near Dadeville last week, and several others have been forced down in recent weeks.

SCOURING THE STATE—L. E. Sellers, Jr., of Alexander City, found an egg laid by one of his hens that had a question mark inscribed thereon. . . . C. F. Lowe, who lives on the home place of the late James McDaniel, near Reform, says there is a garden post of catalpa wood that is in perfect shape despite the fact it has been in use since 1874, and G. R. Price, also of Reform, saw an airplane swoop down over the city last week and fly his plane under kites being flown by some youngsters. . . . Politeness of James Baggett, Thomasville Negro, placed him in jail. Wanting some spending money, he

forged a check and signed it "Mr. B. A. Cogle." . . . Patrolmen in Mobile have found 16-year-old drivers better drivers than older ones. . . . Not a single man has been drafted through the Winfield Selective Service Board. All so far have been volunteers.

LONG TIME TO SEE—For 14 years two men, brothers-in-law, have lived inside Walker County, but they met for the first time in 14 years, by chance, in a store at Jasper.

SILENT NIGHT—Instead of playing "Mary Had a Little Lamb," Montgomery motorists had better play "Silent Night" on their automobile horns from now on. Fourteen persons were arrested in one night for disturbing the peace with noisy horns. . . . The "Duke" is dead. She was a 14-year-old dog belonging to Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Hill, of Sulligent. . . . Will Martin, of Athens, danced a jig to celebrate his seventy-fifth birthday and that's a lost more than some persons can do at 57. . . . Annette Franks, of Fort Payne, is only 6 years old, but she "went fishin'" last week. Annette fell in the water, which was over her head, and after being rescued by Margaret Cross, a playmate, she said "It sure was dark down there."

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

BUT IT DID HAPPEN IN THE U.S.A.

City Dog-Catcher in Birmingham Shoots Owner Who Tried to Save Pet from Pound.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., May 15—Declining to assume jurisdiction, Judge H. B. Abernathy of the Jefferson County Court of Misdemeanors, Wednesday transferred to the Circuit Court

to be placed on the grand jury docket, the case of H. E. Stokes city dog catcher, charged with the shooting of Nelson Hogan, resident of the Woodlawn section, when Hogan allegedly refused to surrender his dog to Stokes who insisted on putting the animal in the dog-wagon and taking it to the pound to be destroyed.

Witnesses told investigating officers, it is understood, that Stokes shot Hogan as the latter, carrying his dog, ran toward the rear of his house, after a scuffle with two assistants in charge of the wagon, who were trying to seize the pet. The dog catcher's contention that when he fired, Hogan was shouting to his wife to bring his gun, was denied by Hogan who is suffering from a bullet wound in the upper right leg, but will recover.

Southern News Almanac
Birmingham, Ala.

Dog Catcher Is Indicted For Shooting Hogan

H. E. Stokes, Birmingham dog catcher, has been indicted for assault with intent to murder in connection with the shooting of Nelson Hogan, Negro coal miner member of the Hamilton Slope local of the UMWA.

The Jefferson County grand jury brought in the indictment late last week. He will be tried later in circuit court.

MAY 15 1941
Hogan was shot in the back April 17 after an argument over his pet dog. The argument began when Hogan refused to surrender the dog to be taken to the dog pound. He charged that he had his dog and was walking around the corner of his house when Stokes shot him. The bullet creased Hogan's left side and then passed all the way through his left arm about midway between the elbow and shoulder. Stokes claimed he shot Hogan because he called to his wife to bring him his gun.

15-1941

Birmingham, Ala. News
July 27, 1941

Alabama Moves To Make Better Men Of Inmates Of Prisons

State Program To Rehabilitate Them Is Directed By Persons

Alabama has done nothing in the past 50 years as a serious effort to make better men of discharged convicts.

This is the opinion of Col. W. E. Persons, director of the comparatively new Alabama Department of Corrections and Institutions.

Proper classification, segregation of first offenders, and earnest efforts toward rehabilitation through education, trades-training and moral rearment—these are essential features of modern prison administration, Col. Persons says.

Alabama is just beginning these effective methods in a new prison program.

Declaring that the public knows less about its criminal wards than it does about the social peculiarities of the Philippine natives, Col. Persons outlines the method by which a basis for future program development is being established in the state.

"The most renowned penologists decided years ago that mass treatment or regimentation of inmates could not bring about the desired results in rehabilitation.

"Individual treatment is unquestionably necessary, and this requires a larger custodial force and an intelligent administration."

When Col. Persons began his work, there were 7,600 inmates. A classification unit was organized immediately, and additional quarters constructed at Kilby. A psychiatrist was employed and segregation begun within a few months after the Department of Corrections and Institutions was created by legislation.

"Two very important problems faced by the new department," Col. Persons says. "One was classification and segregation of those already incarcerated and new inmates on their arrival. I am astounded at some of the magnificent young men—splendid physiques, fine faces and heads, bespeaking fine blood—who come before us penitentiary, a transcript of the record is sent to the department and knowledge of any trade or business. They are illiterate and immoral (rather than immoral) because of background and environment and lack of education.

"The next problem was to set aside an institution for hopeful cases and concentrate upon rehabilitation." Now at the new Speigner prison, there are 800 inmates averaging 22½ years in age, and mostly



SEEKS TO HELP CONVICTS—

Col. W. E. Persons (above), director of the Alabama Department of Corrections and Institutions, is leading the way in Alabama to modern, psychologically-sound, prisoner rehabilitation.

learned no trade or business by which they could make an honest living.

Now 250 prisoners have successfully passed fifth grade grammar school examinations. Seventy-five are taking correspondence courses from a leading school, studying professions, trades and arts. Prisoners have the use of a good library and an opportunity at schooling.

At Atmore farm, 2,000 Negroes are being trained in farming and 100 white men are learning canning and syrup making. The 90 white and 300 Negro women at Wetumpka Prison are receiving progressive education.

When a man is sentenced to the penitentiary, a transcript of the record is sent to the department and a transfer agent brings him to Kilby. There he receives a bath, new clothing, a physical examination. The classification unit studies his former environment, educational and family background. The classification committee assigns him to an institution and a job. First offenders, with type of crime and chances for rehabilitation considered, probably

ALABAMA
prison. Kilby, the modern, maximum security prison, usually retains the hardened types.

In future years, Col. Persons believes, the wisdom and effectiveness of the present prison policy will be demonstrated.

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

Burglary Traps Fugitive Convict

A prompt release into old habits brought grief Wednesday to Sam Williams, Jefferson County negro, described as ringleader of the escape of an even dozen negro convicts engaged in road work near Ozark, July 11.

At the time of his escape Williams was serving three sentences of 15 years each for burglary. A house somewhere in Russell County was burgled Wednesday. Sheriff J. Shannon Burch reported that the burglar was caught by one of his deputies, in possession of clothing and shoes taken from the house, and turned out to be none other than the much-sought Williams. He was placed in jail at Phenix City and was said to have admitted his identity. Prison records showed Williams with a long record as a "repeater" in offenses of such character. He was said to have been the man who first attacked Guard C. Q. York in the break last Friday. The guard was overpowered and left bound in the woods, but managed to free himself and give the alarm.

Most of the 12 convicts gave up after parting company with ringleaders. Recapture of Williams left at large only one, Charlie Johnson, who was serving a 99-year sentence for murder from Jefferson County.

ALABAMA

Argus
St. Louis, Missouri

BACKWARD ALABAMA

The electrocution of Frank Bass, a 22-year-old Negro, at Kilby Prison in Alabama does in no wise reflect credit upon the state officials ~~as being zealous~~ of law enforcement in that state. But on the other hand, the execution shows very definitely that the conviction, sentence and final execution of Bass was about ninety per cent racial prejudice and probably ten per cent punishment for the crime committed.

The conviction of the victim was obtained under an Alabama statute enacted in 1935 making burglary of an occupied dwelling at night a capital offense and Frank Bass, a Negro youth of twenty-two, is the first to suffer the full extent of the law.

We register no complaint against the law, per se, but the way in which such a law may be enforced to the great disadvantage of Negroes makes it obnoxious and causes it to stink in the nostrils of all fair-minded citizens whether in Alabama or New York. Frank Bass was convicted for burglarizing a dwelling at night in Morgan County, Alabama. Governor Frank M. Dixon was importuned to grant clemency because of the strong evidence that the penalty assessed by an all-white jury was too severe, but Governor Dixon refused, thus leaving Alabama in the column of the backward states.

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

First Burglar Goes To Chair Under New Death Penalty Law

AUG 8 - 1941

Two negroes, Frank Bass, Morgan County, convicted of first degree burglary, and Robert Jones, Greene County, sentenced for the murder of his wife, died in the electric chair at Kilby Prison early Friday. Gov. Dixon denied clemency in both cases after hearings Thursday. Bass is the first person to receive the death penalty under a 1935 act making the breaking into of an occupied house at night a crime punishable by death in the discretion of the jury. Gov. Dixon Thursday commuted to life imprisonment the death sentence of another negro, Harrison Williams, Greene County, convicted of slaying Tolbert Walton, a white man.

Bass was convicted of entering a home in Morgan County some five miles from Decatur, occupied at the time by Miss Virginia Canterbury and her invalid father, on the night of Feb. 22, 1940. Miss Canterbury was struck repeated blows on the head with a hammer and was saved from death only by the fact that the hammer was of a light type and finally broke from the force of the blows, it was stated. She recovered, and the negro, who would have

Harrison Williams, another Greene County negro slated to die with Bass and Jones, whose sentence was commuted to life imprisonment by Gov. Dixon Thursday, was sentenced for a murder committed some 15 years ago. After the crime he fled to Mississippi, married and worked for years as a farm hand in the Delta section. A petition signed by many citizens of Marks and Lambert, Miss., bore testimony to his good reputation in that section and asked clemency for him.

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

Convict Seeks Job Insurance And Is Caught

Judges Tightening Down
On Unemployment
Law Violators

Mose Lige, Mobile negro, didn't regard his prison sentence as a bar to unemployment benefits. Now he is back in jail serving a sentence for violating the unemployment compensation law.

Mose went to jail in Mobile County to serve 70 days for fighting. He was made a trusty and he found enough "free" time to make weekly visits to the office of the Alabama State Employment Service and file claims for unemployment benefits. For seven weeks he swore that he was unemployed, able to work and available for work.

T. D. Bell, field representative of the unemployment compensation agency, checked Lige's record and found he had been a prisoner during the seven weeks and that he was not "available to work." Lige was arrested on seven charges of violating the unemployment compensation law. As soon as Lige finished his first jail sentence he was returned to jail to serve time in payment of a fine of \$50 and costs. On his failure to pay fine and costs he will be forced to serve 42 days in jail.

Several months ago Judge John D. Petree, director of industrial relations, urged all law enforcement officers in Alabama to prevent trustees from going to the employment offices and filing claims for unemployment benefits. The report from Mobile is the first since the request was sent out.

Reports of the conviction of four persons in Jefferson County, one in Dallas County and one in Etowah County of violating the unemployment compensation law have been received by the unemployment compensation agency.

Arthur Wells, convicted in Etowah County, was given 60 days at hard labor and put on probation for one year. Matthews Moore was fined \$10 and costs and sentenced to 10 days in jail in Dallas County. Judge William Rountree gave notice that any persons convicted of violating the unemployment compensation law in the future would be given more severe penalties.

Defendants convicted in Jefferson County were Isaac George, Earl McCurry, Robert Louis Hale and Ted R. Wynn. Judge H. A. Abernathy fined each \$20 and costs and sentenced him to 30 days in jail.

In each case the defendant, as additional punishment, was deprived of his benefits for the remainder of his benefit year or the amount he obtained fraudulently was charged against his account and will be collected before any claims are paid to him in the future.

Advertiser

Montgomery, Ala.

Bullock Killer Still At Large

Hunt Pressed For Negro
Slayer Of White Man

UNION SPRINGS, ALA. Sept. 21—(AP)—Armed citizens joined Sheriff John Carroll today in searching for a 35-year-old negro saw mill worker, blamed for the fatal stabbing of Lee Beverly, 30-year-old white farmer, and the slashing of Jack Babb, also sawmill worker, last night.

Sheriff Carroll identified the negro for whom he was searching as Richard Davis, and said the argument from which the cutting grew was the continuation of one between Davis's and Babb's children.

Officers expressed concern last night as an estimated 100 cars filled with armed citizens joined the search, but the sheriff said today "most of them have quit now" and asserted his force was adequate to cope with any situation. This county, Bullock, is in the Alabama Black Belt and its population predominately negro.

Beverly, stabbed in the chest, died shortly after his arrival at a Montgomery hospital. Babb, slashed at the hips, was not believed seriously hurt.

Sheriff Carroll said his investigation showed Beverly had gone to the aid of Babb, after an argument started between him and Davis over words exchanged by their children, the oldest around 10 or 12.

Age-Herald

Birmingham, Ala.

REPRIEVE GIVEN TO CONDEMNED NEGRO

MONTGOMERY, ALA., Sept. 22—(P)—L. C. Bell, Birmingham, filling station employee, in September, 1937, was given a reprieve until Nov. 7 Monday by Gov. Dixon.

Bell had been given many previous reprieves while the case of Joe eVron, Negro convicted in a companion case, was fought through the State and U. S. Supreme Court. The U. S. Court recently ordered a new trial for Vernon.

Prior to Monday's reprieve Bell's execution had been set tentatively for Oct. 3. Gov. Dixon has indicated he would not permit the execution to be carried out while litigation in the Vernon case continues.

News

Birmingham, Ala.

One Involves Death Of Woman Rescuing Grandson From Auto

OCT 13 1941
In Another Trial, Negro
May Pay Supreme Penalty
For Attacking Matron

BY HUGH W. SPARROW

Thirteen cases involving capital punishment—among them one in which a woman was killed rescuing her grandson from an approaching automobile and another in which a Negro is charged with attacking a white woman—will be tried here during the week beginning Oct. 13, the first capital week of the Fall court term.

In all, five cases of murder, seven in which defendants are charged with robbery and one involving rape have been set for trial in the three criminal divisions of the Circuit Court.

Charged with murder in the death of Mrs. Louise Farkas, 37, killed May 11 by an automobile on Seventy-Seventh Street and Second Avenue, North, Cecil Bates is scheduled to begin trial on the first day of the week. Mrs. Farkas was fatally injured but succeeded in shoving her 6-year-old grandson, Charles Farkas, Jr., out of the path of the approaching car. The driver abandoned the automobile near the tragedy scene but later officers arrested Bates and charged him with Mrs. Farkas' death.

Nathaniel Burks, Negro, will face a jury for the second time during capital week on a charge of attacking a white woman of Acipco about two years ago. Burks was tried in the court here and given a death sentence. Later, however, the Supreme Court reversed the case on a question of evidence because it was

contended his shoes did not coincide with footprints believed to have been left by the assailant.

* * *

AMONG THE ROBBERY CASES scheduled for trial is one in which William Smothers is charged with robbing Rabbi Myron Silverman, of Temple Emanu-El. The clergyman reported at the time that a man posing as a hitchhiker approached his car, June 12, but proved to be a holdup man armed with a pistol.

Rabbi Silverman reported he was forced to drive the robber around or more than an hour and finally was ejected from his car after the holdup man had obtained 90 cents from his pockets. Smothers was arrested the following day in Gadsden and returned to Birmingham on a robbery charge.

Besides the Bates case, murder cases docketed for trial during the week of Oct. 13 include:

T. C. Finley, Negro, charged with slaying George McKinstry, Negro, June 14, on the old Trussville Highway during an argument about work they were doing. A charge of assault with intent to murder also has been placed against Finley in connection with the shooting of James McKinstry, brother of the slaying victim, in the same affray.

Ruby Mae Jarrett, Negro, charged

with firing through a window at her husband at their home in Ishkooda and killing him, May 30.

Erie Adams, alias Fred Adams, and Clara Mae Jordan, alias Clara Mae Adams, charged with murder in the killing of Willie Frank Teague, May 8, during a free-for-all fight at Church Street and Thirteenth-Second Avenue, North.

Cal Bishop, charged with knocking his wife down, stabbing her and finally slashing her throat as she lay dying and crying "come here honey." The slaying occurred June 21 and the state charges jealousy as the motive. Bishop, records in the solicitor's office disclose, stabbed himself and lay beside the body of his wife. Later he claimed that the same assailant that stabbed him killed his wife.

* * *

ROBBERY CASES, in addition to the Smothers case, include:

J. C. Golden and E. B. Rich, charged with robbery of B. H. Holmes of \$5.83.

William Blanks charged in an indictment with holding up a barbecue stand and filling station near Warrior and obtaining two guns and several dollars from the cash register. His victim was M. G. (Shug) Smith who identified Blanks shortly after the robbery. Smith died about two months ago and his death is declared to have complicated the case.

Sullivan Porter, Negro, charged with robbery of William R. Baker, Feb. 1, 1941, at the point of a gun near Roebuck. The robbery netted a knife and a small amount of money.

Willie Mitchell, Negro, charged with robbing James Mitchell, Negro, of 50 cents, taken from his coat pocket after he had drawn a knife on his victim.

James Davis and Willie Hill,

charged with robbing the Crystal Cafe, May 17, obtaining \$55 from the proprietor, Steve Bennett, and the Lewis Barbecue stand, operated by Lewis Glenes, May 19, obtaining about \$49.50.

James D. Mason, charged with robbing William D. Knight at the Bungalow Inn on the Gadsden Highway May 12, obtaining \$55 after slugging the victim on the head.

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

Negro Bootlegger Shoots ABC Agent

OCT 13 1941
Bruce Babb's Leg Broken
By Bullet

Bruce Babb, of the enforcement division of the A. B. C. Board, was shot by an unidentified negro Sunday night, after the latter had leaped from his automobile and fled after a chase by officers. Babb, whose right leg was broken by a pistol bullet, was taken to Hubbard Hospital.

According to report at the county jail, Agents Babb and J. B. Richardson, of the A. B. C. Board enforcement squad,

flushed the negro some four miles out on the Norman Bridge Road, about 8 p.m. Sunday. He fled with the officers in hot pursuit. After a seven-mile chase the negro leaped from his car near the intersection of the Mobile and Teague roads. He came out shooting and felled Babb with a bullet in the leg before escaping. His car with six gallons of moonshine was

OCT 13 1941
A sheriff's force headed by Chief Deputy Hayden Sellers and including Deputies Guice, Frizzle, Stevens and Stearn, with bloodhounds, hurried to the scene and were in pursuit of the negro late Sunday night.

15-1941

ALABAMA

News
Birmingham, Ala.

'Ear-Flapped' Negro
Rob Service Station
Of \$80 Cash, Escapes

Bandit Orders Gallon
Of Gas, Loots Register,
Locks Up Night Manager

Brandishing a pearl-handled .32-caliber pistol when Night Service Station Manager Byron Forman opened his cash register to make change, a bandit early Friday morning looted the P. & D. Service Station of \$80.

The bandit, a Negro about 28 years old, came to the P. & D. Station, 803 Third Avenue, West, on the pretext of buying gasoline for his automobile which, he said, had run out of gas down the street.

After Forman hosed a gallon of gas into a can the Negro had brought, the bandit handed over a dollar in payment.

When the service station man went to the cash drawer to change the dollar, the Negro pulled the pistol from his overcoat and scooped up \$80 in currency and coins.

Locking Forman in the station washroom, he fled on foot. He wore a hunting cap with the ear flaps pulled down and was said to weigh some 250 pounds and be approximately five feet, eight inches tall.

Several other thieves in Birmingham Thursday looted several residences, automobiles and business establishments.

Using a pass key, a burglar entered the home of John Wilson, 1704 Eighteenth Street, Ensley, and took \$103 worth of clothing and a pistol.

Another thug looted the store of John J. Marjina, 6401 Third Avenue, South, taking \$55 cash and \$25 worth of cigarettes. Police files said the thief entered through a back door. Marjina lives in the rear of the store.

Loser of a \$27 overcoat and a blanket, Arthur H. Litt, 1710 Tenth Avenue, South, told police someone opened the ventilator window on his automobile and took the items.

The car, he said, was parked at First Avenue, North, and Seventeenth Street.

On the Southside, the fishing burglar was active again. Using a pole and hook, the thief lifted the purse of Lorene Robertson, 809 Thirty-Ninth Place, South, who estimated the loss at \$4.25.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland
Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

Ala. Slayer Gets
Last Minute Stay

MAR 15 1941
WASHINGTON

For the second time since his conviction for murder by the Alabama supreme court, Joe Vernon, of Birmingham, has been granted a stay of execution by the United States Supreme Court.

His second stay was granted Thursday, a few hours before his scheduled electrocution, and is effective until the justices pass on Vernon's petition for review of the Alabama court's action. Justice Felix Frankfurter on January 30 gave Vernon a reprieve just prior to the time he was first scheduled to be electrocuted.

News

Birmingham, Ala.
His Profession Fails
To Prevent Negro
From Drawing Fine

MAR 16 1941
Ernest Williams, 19, Negro, told City Recorder Henry Martin in Police Court Tuesday morning that he was a "poor knocker on."

"What's that?" asked Judge Martin, who thought he had heard 'em all.

"I goes with the rentman and while he stays in the car I knocks on the doors and tell folks he is out there," Ernest explained to the court.

Judge Martin fined the Negro \$1 and \$1 costs and gave him a 30-day suspended jail sentence on charges of disorderly conduct and trespassing at Parker High School. The complaint was made by one of the school instructors that the Negro had stood outside a window at the school and annoyed students in a classroom.

The chase continued through the swamp for some distance. The negro prisoner caught frequent glimpses of the second negro and the calf and relayed the information back to his lagging companions in the chase by means of excellent lung-power.

'Stop Thief!'
Shouts Thief;
Neither Does

MAR 19 1941

CAMDEN, ALA. March 18.—The desire to kill two birds with one stone netted an empty bag recently for Sheriff P. C. Jenkins and his two deputies, Sam J. McNeil and Henry Roberts.

Sheriff Jenkins and his two deputies were called last week to investigate the theft of an unnamed negro's crippled hog. The prime suspect, a negro, denied having done away with the crippled hog and undertook to show the officers that the hog in question was still alive and rooting—on the property of the would-be plaintiff. The officers viewed the hog but were not fully convinced that their suspect was completely free of guilt in every wise. They then searched his dwelling and outbuildings.

Under a pile of fertilizer they discovered several suspicious pails of meat. Feeling that such was sufficient evidence, the trio started back to Camden with their prisoner.

On the way back to Camden, the prisoner called Sheriff Jenkins' attention to another negro making his way through Gov. Miller's swamp with a calf on his back.

With a commendable grinding of brakes, Sheriff Jenkins brought the car to a stop and all passengers took out in hot pursuit, the erstwhile prisoner in strident lead, yelling "Nigger, drop that calf."

The trio of officers dropped behind their stone which was directed at the two birds of a feather. Neither Sheriff Jenkins nor his deputies ventured any explanation of their inability to keep up but it is thought that, according to Fleetwood Hollinger, Jr., they were not in quite as fine fettle as their prisoner.

The chase continued through the swamp for some distance. The negro prisoner caught frequent glimpses of the second negro and the calf and relayed the information back to his lagging companions in the chase by means of excellent lung-power.

Completely winded, the sheriff and his deputies finally stopped. The prisoner-bloodhound didn't. Hog-thief vanished as completely as calf-thief suspect.

News
Birmingham, Ala.

Court Attaches Raise
\$3 Traveling Fund
For Homesick Negro

Judge Murphree Starts
Ball Rolling And Allows
Suspect To Sign Own Bond

Andrew James Tyler, a Sheffield Negro whose longest journey and stay away from home was four and one-half months he spent in the Jefferson County Jail, went back to his family Saturday with \$3 traveling money in his pocket, the gift of Federal Judge T. A. Murphree and U. S. Court attaches.

Tyler pleaded guilty before Judge Murphree to a charge of illicit distilling. The court wanted an investigation of his past record made before he passes sentence on him at Florence early next month so the Negro faced more days in jail. Questioned by the court, he said he didn't have a dime to his name and was unable to make bail.

When he confided in the court that he was homesick to see his family, Judge Murphree decided to let him sign his own bond. Then the court started the ball rolling by subscribing 50 cents to a traveling fund. Asst. Dist. Atty. Jack McGuire matched this with another half dollar. Chief Probation Officer Foster Jordan chipped in 50 cents, and Deputy Clerk Stovall Kendrick raised the pot to \$2. A couple of deputy marshals added the third dollar.

He would have had a total of \$4 had the court permitted Edgar L. Lewis, who had just been placed on probation for a year after he had pleaded guilty to an impersonation charge, to give Tyler \$1.

Sentences imposed on other defendants, who pleaded guilty to various charges during the week, were:

National motor vehicle theft act: Elmore Knotts, five years; Charles B. Willis, Jr., three years; Odie William Orr, three years; Dan Ridgeway, five years; George E. Ritchie, five years.

Counterfeiting: Sam Archie, five years; Boyd Thomason, five years; Danville Rogers, five years; Oscar B. Bailey, three years.

Theft of mail matter: Daniel Lee Mason, five years.

Illicit distilling: John Henry Rumph, 18 months in a reformatory; Richard Hayes, five years; Houston Robert King, three years. The latter also was sentenced to two years on a check forgery charge.

A number of those sentenced were also placed under five-year probationary periods to begin at the expiration of their penitentiary terms.

News
Birmingham, Ala.

It Was A Costly
Orange That Negro
Took From Stand

APR 16 1941
And who did this Negro, Eloucie Jackson, 22, of 2724 Twenty-Seventh Place, North, rear, think he was anyway—a policeman?

That's what W. M. Espy, Jr., city detective wanted to know when he saw the Negro take an orange from the fruit stand operated by Detective Espy's father at 1330 Second Avenue, North Monday night.

Tuesday afternoon in Police Court, the Negro pleaded guilty to a charge of petty larceny. He was fined \$1 and \$1 costs.

Detective Espy explained that reason for arrest of the Negro was that petty pilfers of fruit from the stand had become a serious problem.

"They just walk by and pick up the fruit without paying for it while my dad is busy in the rear," the detective said. "They all must seem to think they are old-time policemen or something."

OFFICER SHOOTS MAN
IN ARREST ATTEMPT

PAGE ONE

Shot by a city detective for allegedly resisting arrest, Ervin James, 37, a Negro, of 919 Railroad-st, Pratt City, is in serious condition at Hillman Hospital today with a bullet wound in the right side.

James was shot near his home by Detective M. W. Alexander yesterday. The Negro, according to the detective's statement, began to fight when an attempt was made to arrest him on a drunken driving charge.

Detective W. E. Degroat and N. C. Probst are investigating.

News
Birmingham, Ala.

Negro Boy Trapped Ransacking House

APR 8 1941

Trapped in the residence of G. W. Hogan at 2409 Arlington Avenue, early Tuesday afternoon, a 15-year-old Negro boy was taken into custody by Officers Roberts and Thompson and turned over to City Detectives Hatchelder and Wood for further investigation.

The Negro admitted ransacking two Southside homes Tuesday within less than an hour.

Mr. Hogan reported to police he came home unexpectedly to find the Negro youth ransacking his residence. At Police Headquarters the boy readily admitted attempting to burglarize the house, but said an older Negro had offered him \$2 to get some jewelry from the residence.

Police were attempting to locate the other residents whose homes the boy admitted entering prior to his capture in the Hogan home.

News
Birmingham, Ala.
**Negroes Face Trial
After Lottery Raid**

APR 22 1941
The "reception committee party," held at a lottery law violator's home Monday night with Detectives Goldstein and Houston as hosts, Tuesday had resulted in the \$300 bonding of six Negroes who will be tried Thursday morning.

After raiding the home of James Goodman, 38, at 1522 Twentieth Street, Ensley, where they found lottery tickets, the two detectives waited at the house and arrested five others who "reported" there later in the night.

Arrested, jailed and later released on \$300 bonds were Goodman, Archie Mosley, 54, of 1716 Bessie Avenue; Jack Rooks, 65, Pratt City; Julius Hunt, 32, of 1849½ Eighteenth Street, Ensley; Inez Menfee, 1423 Twentieth Place, Ensley, and her son, Leon Menfee, same address, who has been turned over to Juvenile Court authorities.

APR 22 1941

Talladega, Ala., Mountain Home
May 14, 1941

CHEAP LIVES

P. A. Hurst, writing in The Roanoke Leader made a valuable contribution to Alabama civilization when he vividly brought before the public the shameful fact that Negroes are permitted to kill and maim each other and escape with little punishment by the law.

Mr. Hurst quoted a respected Negro minister of Roanoke as saying that he is heart-broken over the state of affairs among his people.

"My life is not worth the snap of your finger if I should say something from the pulpit that would offend one of these wild, rough, drinking fellows," the writer quoted the minister as saying, "He could take my life and get out with a very light fine."

Mr. Hurst then cited instances given to him by the Negro of acts of violence, committed by Negroes against Negroes, which either went unpunished or for which the punishment was ridiculously light.

"There has been lots said about lynching in the United States," the minister was quoted as saying. "The sensible Negroes of the South are not scared about being lynched by white people, but they do need protection against their own race and this protection can only be given by the enforcement of the laws that are in the hands of the white man."

There is a scathing indictment of Southern civilization which shocks us more because it is true.

From our youth up we have been familiar with the casual attitude displayed by responsible white persons toward acts of violence among Negroes.

There's a shrug of the shoulders. It was a "nigger cuttin'," or a "nigger killin'." No use to get excited about it. In Talladega county, which has been no better and no worse than the average, we have seen Negroes guilty of the most deliberate sort of cold-blooded murder get away with a short prison term.

You can't blame the law enforcement officials for the situation. They represent the society which they serve.

They reflect our attitude—an attitude which is wrong from any angle.

Few of us have not at some time used influence to protect a Negro from the law—because he was a good workman and we needed his services for our own selfish benefit.

The majority of Negroes, of course, "get off light," not because of a white person's influence, but because white

society seems to care very little about whether Negro citizens observe the law.

A Negro who murders a Negro in cold blood should go to the chair just as surely and swiftly as if he had murdered a white man. A Negro who assaults a Negro should pay the penalty dictated by law and justice, not by indifference.

No county in Alabama, to our knowledge, is free of stain in the matter. It is high time for a complete change in our attitude and a resolve that Negroes guilty of violence against Negroes should be dealt with as they deserve.

Birmingham, Ala. News
May 11, 1941

Open House Scheduled At Negro Housing Project On Southside

Those Wishing To See
New Center Are Invited
To Attend Sunday, 1 P.M.

Southtown, second Birmingham low cost Negro housing project, will stage an "open house" at 1 p.m. Sunday at 2307 Eighth Avenue, South, for Negro families who wish to view the new housing center.

Hundreds of Negro families are expected to view three Southtown dwelling units which have been furnished by the Negro NYA division from Slossfield.

The new project will provide homes for 480 families now living in overcrowded conditions or in dwellings that fail to meet the minimum requirements for health and safety.

Southtown, built on Brown's Hill, one of the city's "blighted areas" housing Negroes, was developed and will be operated by the Housing Authority of the Birmingham District with the financial aid of the United States Housing Authority.

Smithfield Court, first Negro low cost housing project in Birmingham, now housing more than 500 families, is leased by the Birmingham Authority from the federal government.

A. B. White, manager of Southtown, has invited Birmingham Negro families to visit the project Sunday and this week.

Troy, Ala. Messenger
May 9, 1941

Colored Civic League

Will Cooperate In Cleanup

According to information received in this office the Colored Civic League of Troy will cooperate 100 percent with Mayor Copeland, City Superintendent W. P. Cox and other authorities in making a success of Cleanup Week beginning Monday.

At a recent meeting of the League the following Resolutions were adopted:

Whereas we believe that cleanliness is next to godliness in all the aspects of human intelligence, according to our teaching and practices and whereas;

We as a colored people believe those things taught us to be right and in keeping with the regulated laws of respect and decency given to us by a very efficient city government; one that we ought to obey as loyal people and whereas;

Our Honorable Mayor Mr. Seth Copeland has set the week of May 12th for Clean-Up Week for the City of Troy, Alabama, and whereas;

The Troy Colored Civic League has always cooperated in all worthy movements when called upon by our City Government, I do hereby proclaim the week of the 12th of May 1941, as Clean-Up Week. Start now and get your waste ready for the city wagon Monday through Thursday

Proclaimed in honor of the Civic League this the 8th day of May 1941.

J. C. PITTS, President.

B. F. Harrison, Secretary.

Southern News
Almanac
Birmingham, Ala.

Postpone Gelders' Trial Until June 6

The trial of Joseph S. Gelders, Circulation Manager of The Southern News Almanac, on charges of "refusing to assist an officer" engaged in beating a Negro prisoner, has been postponed until Friday, June 6, on request of the City. The trial will be held in police court in Birmingham City Hall.

The charges of "malicious mischief, disorderly conduct and resisting arrest" against Foster Powers, 23-year-old Acipco employee, were dismissed in Judge Henry Martin's court last Friday on motion of Arthur D. Shores, Powers' attorney, on grounds of mental incapacity.

Officer C. H. Moore of the Birmingham police force was beating Powers with a blackjack and with the butt of his gun in the back seat of a police car when Gelders took his badge number and was arrested.

News
Birmingham, Ala.
**Officer Shoots Negro
Who Resisted Arrest**

Because he resisted arrest Saturday night on a driving while intoxicated charge, a 37-year-old Negro, Erwin James, Monday lay near death at the Hillman Hospital, a police bullet through his abdomen.

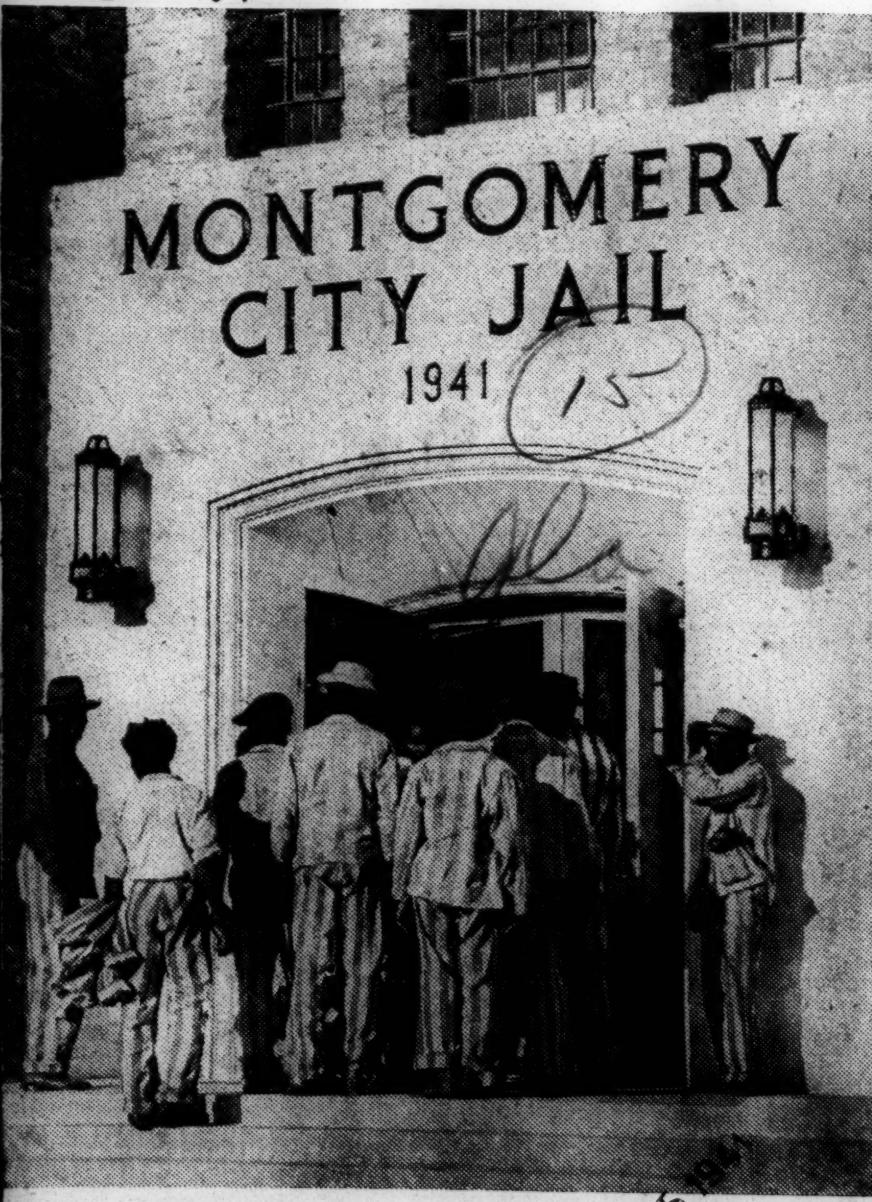
James, whose condition Monday was termed "not good" by Hillman attendants, was shot at his home, 919 Railroad Street, Pratt City, by City Detective M. W. Alexander, who had arrested James on a driving while intoxicated charge.

The police report of the incident stated James "was trying to fight him (Detective Alexander) and he had to shoot in self-defense."

The detective was working alone when the shooting occurred. A routine investigation was being made Monday.

15-1941

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.



NEW ADDRESS—The city's 65 prisoners were transferred by truck yesterday afternoon from the County Jail to the new City Jail on North Ripley Street. Supper, cooked in the modern kitchen, was their first meal at the new address.

News
Birmingham, Ala.

Negro Is Wounded By Lumber Worker In Cutoff Shooting

Johns Man Claims He
Fired, Believing Group
Was Attacking Him

BESSEMER, Ala.—Believing he was shooting at strikers at the Belcher Lumber Company who were going to attack him, S. L. Rich, of Johns, shot James Hammond, 25, of 4704 Avenue A, Birmingham, Negro, about noon Wednesday on the Bessemer-Johns Road. Chief Deputy Clyde W. Morris reported Thursday. The Negro was shot through the chest above the heart, and was taken to Bessemer General Hospital, Morris said.

Rich is employed by the Belcher Lumber Company and had been beaten by a "gang" of seven men about a week ago on the way from work, Morris declared. He had also reported being stopped Monday by two white men and three Negroes

ALABAMA

in a truck on Johns Road and that portedly the seller of the whisky, they had thrown rocks at him. He was held under \$500 bond today on charges of selling untaxed liquor.

Rich was placed under arrest on a charge of assault with intent to murder by Deputy George Alexander Wednesday afternoon and made bond.

Rich told the deputies he was going to Johns Wednesday when a truck passed him and after zig-zagging across the road in front of him, two Negroes got out and picked up some rocks. It was at that time that he shot one of the Negroes, believing they were his previous attackers.

The two Negroes were accompanied by Sam Wilson, 1772 McMillan Avenue, Birmingham, and were National Youth Administration employees, they told the officers. The reason assigned for the motion of the truck was that they were trying to run over a snake, and the Negro youths had gotten out of the truck to kill the snake.

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.
**Selma Child's
Death Is Laid
To Alcoholism**

AUBURN, ALA., May 20.—(U.P.) Dr. H. W. Nixon, State toxicologist, said today that the death of Leslie Alfred McIntyre, nine-year-old Selma boy, was probably due to acute alcoholism and not to poisoned whisky.

He said he had been told by members of the boy's family and the Selma Salvation Army that the child had been "drinking for some time and even ~~was~~ whisky on occasions."

In Selma, Sheriff J. E. Kennedy continued an investigation into the child's death, which came two days after his 35-year-old brother, James, gave him two drinks of bootleg whisky.

The sheriff said the child died in convulsions Sunday night, two days after James McIntyre had given him two drinks of whisky he had purchased from a negro in Selma's "pest-hole" section.

Solicitor Henry F. Reese said he had learned the child first developed a liking for whisky when he was only three and a half years old.

State Toxicologist H. W. Nixon reported after an autopsy that "the condition of the boy's brain was consistent with alcoholism," and said his stomach would be examined today.

Sam Wade, negro, who was re-

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

News
Birmingham, Ala.
**Negro Seeks Damages
From Circuit Clerk
For Period In Jail**

Because a deputy clerk of one of the Circuit Court divisions failed to enter a court order nolprossing two charges against a Negro last Oct. 9, and the Negro consequently remained in jail until Jan. 31, 1941, with no charge against him, Circuit Clerk Osa Andrews Friday received notice of a formal claim for damages.

MAY 30 1941
The notice was contained in a letter Andrews received from a local attorney and the clerk immediately notified the county attorney's office and the bonding company.

Declaring the claim was being made against his official bond because of the negligence of a court attache no longer under his jurisdiction but under the Personnel Board, Andrews said he did not believe the bonding company should be required to pay the claim.

Andrews declared he was seeking the advice of the county attorney and also disclosed that he planned to ask the attorney general to rule on the question whether he should be responsible for acts of county employees now under the Personnel Board director.

The attorney's letter to Andrews declared that last July Wiley Gibson, a Negro, was arrested by city officers on burglary and grand larceny charges. The Negro was later transferred to the County Jail and subsequently indicted. Both charges, however, were nolprossed Oct. 9, the letter added, that the court order, apparently overlooked by the deputy clerk, was not formally entered. The sheriff's office was not notified that the charges had been dropped and the Negro remained in jail until Jan. 31, when the overseer was discovered.

MAY 30 1941
Both he and the policeman who accompanied him testified they went to the Greenwood home to make a search of the premises, after they were told a man with a gun was creating a disturbance there, though they admitted no man or gun was found.

**White Cop
Freed In
Shooting
Race Girl**

MONTGOMERY, Ala., May 29—On the recommendation of Circuit Solicitor W. T. Seibels and his statement that evidence for the prosecution was insufficient to convict, Circuit Judge Eugene Carter dismissed here Thursday a charge of assault with intent to murder by City Police Officer E. W. Hamilton on Dorothy Greenwood, 12-year-old race girl, when he and another officer searched the child's home in North Montgomery on the afternoon of January 18, this year.

A bullet fired from Policeman Hamilton's pistol at the time penetrated the girl's skull, entering her brain. After several weeks in a hospital, she was discharged and has since been apparently normal, though the bullet was not removed, surgeons fearing an operation to remove it would prove fatal.

The solicitor's recommendation and action of the trial judge in dismissing the case came after the trial had been in progress for nearly two hours.

Officer Hamilton claimed on the witness stand that his pistol which he held cocked in his hand while he searched James Greenwood, brother of the girl, for a weapon, was discharged accidentally as he attempted to let the hammer down.

Both he and the policeman who accompanied him testified they went to the Greenwood home to make a search of the premises, after they were told a man with a gun was creating a disturbance there, though they admitted no man or gun was found.

News
Birmingham, Ala.

Negro 'Prosecutor' Wins First Case In Judge Ab's Court

Walter Moore, Negro, of Irondale Route 1, turned prosecutor in Judge Abernethy's court Tuesday afternoon and won his case against Luther Hinton, Negro, of 6412 Third Avenue, North.

Moore recently swore out a warrant charging Hinton with the embezzlement of the former's automobile, and when the case was called up, Judge Abernethy asked for a detailed explanation.

Moore said Hinton had persuaded him to let him sell his automobile for him, declaring he could swing a better deal. Hinton took the car, Moore said, and disposed of it but did not pay him any part of the \$100 he had promised.

"All right," declared Judge Abernethy, "you go ahead and cross-examine the prisoner."

For about 20 minutes Moore plied Hinton with questions which kept the court in an uproar, until Judge Abernethy finally announced to Moore that "you win."

When the Negro told the court he valued the car at \$65, Judge Abernethy asked Hinton what he proposed to do about it.

"I'll pay up," Hinton replied.

"But," broke in Moore, "I forgot to mention 50 cents I had to pay to fix the car."

"All right," declared Judge Abernethy, turning to Hinton, "it'll be \$65.50, and I forgot to tell you that you'll have to pay the court costs, too."

News
Birmingham, Ala.

Negro, Clad Only In Night Clothes, Escapes Hospital

If you see a Negro wandering about the streets in a nightgown with the name "Hil man" on it Sheriff Holt McDowell would like to know about it.

The Negro, Leon Person, 18, of Wegrav, Ala., being held in the County jail here for grand larceny, a cow was sent to Hillman Hospital for an emergency appendicitis operation. A short time later, however, the Negro youth escaped from the hospital clad only in a hospital nightshirt.

The Negro was lodged in jail by Officers J. N. McMath and A. H. Cook soon after they took him into custody near Tenth Street and Sixth Avenue, North.

Tuskegee News
Tuskegee, Alabama

Knife Wielder Nicks Policeman And Negro

William D. Carroll, 34, was charged at police headquarters last night with assault to murder, disorderly conduct, and resisting an officer, after he had cut Arthur Norman, negro, and slashed Police Officer E. W. Hamilton on the leg, when the officer went to arrest him.

Carroll, it was reported, slashed the negro when he passed in front of the Pekin Theater brandishing a knife. Later, police were told, he was ejected from the National Guard, when he began using abusive language inside the cafe. Officer Hamilton started after Carroll when someone in the cafe shouted to stop him. When Hamilton caught up with Carroll, the fleeing man turned and cut at the officer with his knife. Neither Hamilton nor the negro was seriously injured.

News
Birmingham, Ala.

Negro Burglar Must Die In Chair; First By Drastic New Law

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP) —

Frank Bass, 21-year-old Negro convicted in Morgan Circuit Court, must die in the electric chair Aug. 1 under Alabama's drastic 1935 burglary law.

Unless there is intervention, Bass will be the first person put to death under the new statute which made it a capital offense to break into an occupied dwelling at night. Previous to 1935, 20 years had been the maximum punishment for any type burglary.

Bass was accused of breaking into the dwelling of J. J. Canterbury "with intent to steal, or rob, or rape, or murder" by the Morgan Grand Jury in February, 1940.

The Supreme Court's decision affirmed that of the lower court. All justices, except Knight, who was not sitting, concurred.

News
Birmingham, Ala.

Negro Is Charged With Knife Attack

A Negro, identified as Sullivan Porter, 19, of 955 Mortimer Street, who allegedly attacked William R. Baker, 53, of 226 Riley Street, Bessemer, with a knife Saturday night, was held in City Jail Monday charged with assault with intent to murder.

The Negro was lodged in jail by Officers J. N. McMath and A. H. Cook soon after they took him into custody near Tenth Street and Sixth Avenue, North.

The officers said they were cruising in this vicinity when they heard a scream and when they arrived at the scene, the Negro was being held at pistol point by A. H. Cox, night watchman for the Alabama Highway Express. Cox told officers he had heard the scream and went out to find the Negro running from the field. Cox drew his pistol and held the Negro until officers arrived.

Baker, who was taken to the Tennessee Company Employees' Hospital, reported the Negro had assaulted and stabbed him as he was crossing a field at Tenth Street and Sixth Avenue, North. Hospital attaches said Monday Baker had suffered stab wounds and a long laceration on the back. He was reported to be in "fair condition."

JUN 15 1941

News
Birmingham, Ala.

Negro Held After Fight On Trolley

An argument over the fare of a Negro woman on a crowded Edgewood street car late Wednesday afternoon had resulted Thursday in arrest of a Negro man on a charge of assault with intent to murder and treatment at Hillman Hospital of a street car conductor and a Negro woman passenger for stab wounds.

City Detectives Badelder and Glad and Radio Men John Vance and Higgins and Deputy Sheriff DeWitt Lewis investigated.

The officers said they were told by L. E. Payne, 33, of East Lake, the conductor, that when he approached Joe Mallory, 40, Negro, of Homewood, for his fare near the Five Points section the Negro started an argument over the fare of a Negro woman, identified by the officers as Laura White.

An altercation followed, according to the officers, in which the conductor charged Mallory stabbed him in the left shoulder.

A Negro woman, Rosa Lee Kelly, 22, of Homewood, in attempting to get out of range of the knife, was stabbed in the back, the officers said.

Mallory then jumped off the street car and ran behind a house in the 1300 block of South Twentieth Street, where he was seized by several citizens and street car men. Mallory was turned over to the officers and placed in jail.

After first aid treatment at Hillman, the street car conductor was given further treatment at St. Vincent's and then sent home.

JUN 15 1941

News
Birmingham, Ala.

Burns in Fire

Behind this group came two Negro youths. He heard one of them say, "Let's knife the night watchman." One of the Negroes advanced on him with a knife. Mr. Chambliss pulled his gun. The Negro "wheeled," and he shot.

Mr. Chambliss said he and the Negro had exchanged no words.

JUN 15 1941

News
Birmingham, Ala.

Negro Shot, Officers Question Watchman

William Evans, Negro, of 2309 Rear Fifth Avenue, South, was in Hillman Hospital Saturday in a serious condition, after having been shot [REDACTED] 12 1941 during a reported altercation with J. D. Chambliss, night watchman at Hill Grocery Warehouse on Third Avenue, South, between Fifteenth and Sixteenth Streets. Mr. Chambliss lives at 2515 Thirty-Seventh Avenue, North.

The night watchman reported he was making his 11 p.m. rounds when half a dozen Negro men and women passed him on the sidewalk forcing him to step off the curb.

One of the Negroes cursed him, the veteran night watchman told officers and a brief argument ensued in which the Negro, Evans, reportedly drew a knife. The watchman said he then drew his pistol and fired one time at the Negro as he started to run.

At the hospital the wounded Negro denied having fired the watchman [REDACTED] 12 1941 said he was shot after having shown resentment over some remark about the "Negroes taking up the entire street."

YOUTH, 17, SHOT
BY WATCHMAN

Police today were investigating the shooting of William Evans, 17-year-old Negro, by a 59-year-old white night watchman, John D. Chambliss, near the Hill Grocery Warehouse, on Third av. s. between 15th and 16th sts.

At Hillman Hospital, where his chart said he was shot in the back, the Negro youth's condition was reported as "good."

A report at Police Headquarters under the names of Detectives W. E. DeGroat and N. C. Propst said:

"William Evans said he and others were walking east on Avenue C between 15th and 16th sts. and met night watchman who spoke to them and called them Negroes and when he resented it he said he shot [REDACTED] 12 1941 him in the shoulder."

Mr. Chambliss told reporters this. He was making his rounds by the warehouse when a group of young Negroes boys and girls, came along and crowded him off the sidewalk.

Behind this group came two Negro youths. He heard one of them say, "Let's knife the night watchman." One of the Negroes advanced on him with a knife. Mr. Chambliss pulled his gun. The Negro "wheeled," and he shot.

Mr. Chambliss said he and the Negro had exchanged no words.

JUN 15 1941

News
Birmingham, Ala.

Negro Bound Over In Street Car Row

A Negro knife wielder who was reported to have a record of a previous conviction for attacking a white man was ordered held for the Grand Jury by Judge H. B. Abernethy at the conclusion of his trial Monday afternoon in the Jefferson County Court of Misdemeanors.

Joe Mallory, of Rosedale, charged with assault with intent to murder, was accused of stabbing L. E. Payne, conductor on an Edgewood street car, following an argument between Payne and a Negro woman passenger over change.

Although it was testified that Mallory was not with the woman but was sitting in another seat, witnesses declared the Negro rushed up to the conductor and in a surly tone declared "Well, are you going to give that woman her change?"

Payne said he was unarmed at the time and went to the rear of the car to get a blackjack from a tool box but before he reached the box he was stabbed in the shoulder.

The Negro fled from the car and was found by city officers hiding in a building near Five Points.

When Solitor [REDACTED] 12 1941 told the court that Mallory was convicted in 1931 of assaulting a white man the court bound him over under a \$300 bond.

Several Rosedale Negroes appeared in court in defense of the accused Negro.

SUSPECTED KNIFER HELD TO GRAND JURY

Charged with stabbing a street car conductor during an argument over change, Joe Mallory, Negro, of Rosedale, was held to the Jefferson County Grand Jury on an assault-to-kill charge, after a preliminary hearing before Judge H. B. Abernethy.

L. E. Payne, conductor on the Edgewood line, testified Mallory knifed him in the shoulder as the street car man started on a blackjack he kept in a metal box at the front of the car [REDACTED] 12 1941.

The Negro was arrested a short distance away in a two-story dwelling near Five Points, where he ran to hide when street car men and officers gave chase.

15-1941

ALABAMA

News

Birmingham, Ala.

Burglaries And Attacks Added Armed Negro Bandits To Charges Faced By Negro

The string of cases against a confessed burglar, Willie Nelms Spread, 32, of 631 William Street, who was arrested Friday by Detectives R. G. Shirley and McCoy Helton, continued to grow Saturday when the detectives announced the Negro had confessed to three additional burglaries as well as two attack cases which occurred during the two years of the Negro's alleged operation. **JAN 5 1941**

The detectives said the Negro had confessed the two attacks in the presence of a police stenographer and would sign the confession either late Saturday night or Sunday.

Chief of Detectives Luther Hollums has asked that all persons who might have reasons to suspect the Negro to come to Police Headquarters and make inquiry and that all information submitted to the Police Department would be treated as confidential.

Detectives Helton and Shirley, who cleared the mystifying cases after weeks of endless work, said the Negro was identified by one of the two women who were attacked by the Negro after their homes had been burglarized. They said the Negro was taken on a tour of the western district Saturday and that he pointed out three houses in addition to those revealed Friday which he burglarized during the last two years.

Termed "the most important arrest in 10 years" the case of the cat-like burglar who entered homes on clock-like schedules and in some cases attempted to molest women occupants of the homes, has remained one of the most mystifying cases in the annals of the Police and Detectives Departments.

The two detectives said the Negro had also admitted entering the home of Detective Fred Cain several weeks ago and having taken Cain's pistol and fountain pen. The burglaries ranged throughout the districts of Belview Heights, Fairview, College Hills and West End.

Meanwhile, a string of Birmingham residents whose homes have been burglarized during the last two years continued to pour through Police Headquarters attempting to clear up many night burglaries which remain unsolved on Police Department files.

Saturday a police lineup was held at the City Jail at which time the Negro was identified by one of the attacked women. **JAN 5 1941**

The arrest of the Negro was brought about through a cleaning mark found in a hat left at the

News

Birmingham, Ala.

Rob Two; Several Other Thefts Reported

scene of a burglary several days ago at the home of Mrs. Emma Black, 713 Twenty-Third Avenue, West.

The two detectives said they checked and rechecked every hat cleaning establishment in town until they were certain of the Negro's identity. At that time they drove to Acipeo and arrested him when he left his job at a pipe shop there.

The operations of the catlike burglar have caused terror and apprehension to prevail in every section of the western district. So bad did the cases get that citizens at one time were contemplating forming a vigilante committee to work with the Police Department.

News
Birmingham, Ala.

Negro Tells Police He 'Rah' Whisky To Help Pay Fine!

This business of paying off a drunken driving fine isn't all beer and skittles as far as Ralph Jackson, Negro, of 3836 Thirty-Sixth Avenue, North, is concerned.

Late Tuesday night two Tarrant officers, Clyde Sellers and Bill Duncan, were driving along their beat when they spotted a suspicious-looking automobile.

Giving chase, the officers ran the car for several blocks, commanded the driver to "pull over." Instead, the driver swerved the car in the path of the police machine and two men bounded out and landed across a field. Jackson was caught and his companion escaped. Found in the car were 55 gallons of "white mule" corn whisky. **JAN 5 1941**

When asked why he was running whisky, Jackson said: "Well, boss, it's like this: I'm out of jail on bond now for drunken driving and I needed a little extra money to pay off my fine."

Jackson has been turned over to Alcohol Tax Unit agents.

News
Birmingham, Ala.

Armed Negro Bandits

Has Chance To Live

Two armed robberies and a series of smaller crimes made up Birmingham's crime log over the weekend.

A lone Negro bandit armed with a .32 pistol stalked into a Mutual Oil Company filling station at 3830 Fifth Avenue, North, held the manager, Buford Evans, at bay and robbed the cash register of \$40 in currency and a pistol valued at \$15.

Evans said he was not harmed by the Negro, but was forced into the station's washroom while the Negro escaped. The Negro was described as between 28 and 30 years old, weighing 170 pounds, and five feet, eight inches tall. He was wearing an overcoat. Evans told officers the Negro had purchased two gallons of gas and carried them to his car across the street, when he returned brandishing the pistol.

Oscar Hall, 1619 Tallapoosa Street, reported to police he was robbed of \$5 by two armed Negroes, who accosted him at Coosa Street and Twelfth Avenue, North. **JAN 5 1941** He was not harmed.

Officials of Western Auto Stores, 311 South Twenty-First Street, reported to police Monday a burglar knocked the pane out of a window and escaped with a radio valued at \$13.95.

L. C. Ramsey, Jr., 2400 Charles Street, West End, reported thieves broke into his automobile Sunday night and escaped with clothing and a camera valued at \$60.90.

Russell Powell, 1511 Twelfth Avenue, South, reported the loss of clothing valued at \$40 after thieves entered his automobile at a downtown parking lot.

Tools valued at \$78.95 were reported taken Sunday night by a burglar from the home of E. W. DeRamus, 601 Sixth Street, Southwest.

Dr. Miles Watkins, 2731 Hanover Circle, reported the loss of a quantity of clothing valued at \$10 and a 25-cent piece of stew meat from his automobile at 1241 Twenty-First Place, North.

News

Birmingham, Ala.

Negro With Head Almost Cut Off

JAN 5 1941

Nathan Vaughan, 27-year-old Negro of 2129 Twenty-Sixth Avenue, North, should have a pretty good idea Monday of how French King Louis XVI felt when he went to the guillotine.

A quick-thinking, deft-fingered interne at Hillman Hospital took one look at the Negro as he lay on the hospital emergency table early Sunday morning and began barking orders.

The Negro's head was practically hanging from his shoulders. A sharp knife used during a fight with another Negro had nearly decapitated him. **JAN 5 1941**

The wound was located at the base of the skull and stretched from ear to ear. For an hour and a half, the medico worked feverishly. Four rolls of "catgut"—each a yard long—were sewed in the wound stitching the inner muscles of the neck, as well as the outer layers.

When asked how many stitches he had made, the interne replied: "I don't know. I lost count."

Vaughan lay in the hospital Monday morning with a good chance to live, according to the attaches, and the prospect of a long-time crick in his neck.

News
Birmingham, Ala.

Negro Knife Wielder Slashes Own Artery And Bleeds To Death

JAN 6 1941

Because he attempted to violate the commandment "Thou Shalt Not Kill," an unidentified Negro man Monday was dead, a victim of his own murderous hand.

Police said the man, whose identity still remains a mystery, became involved in a fight Saturday in front of a restaurant at 1005 Fifth Avenue, North, and drew his knife in an attempt to stab his opponent.

Slashing wildly at the other man, the Negro slashed a femoral artery in his own leg and bled to death before reaching the hospital.

In another outbreak of week-end violence among the city's Negro population, a 27-year-old Negro man suffered a gunshot wound of the right foot, a wound police say was inflicted by his sister.

Victim in the case was Sammie

Pope, 2433 North Twenty-Second Street. Police are holding in connection with the shooting his sister, Hattie Cleveland, 2118 Twenty-Fifth Alley, North.

The shooting was an outgrowth Sunday morning of an argument over a fountain pen, officers said.

Several other Negroes were slashed and shot at in the customary series of week-end frays.

Age-Herald

EXECUTION STAYS EXTENDED AGAIN

Two Birmingham Negroes Are Condemned In Slaying

MONTGOMERY, Ala. March 6 (AP)—For the second time within recent weeks two condemned Alabama Negroes Thursday won stays of execution from the U. S. Supreme Court. **MAR 6 1941**

The Negroes, Joe Vernon and L. C. Bell, were sentenced to death in the 1938 hold-up slaying of Bennie Montgomery, a Birmingham filling station attendant.

Vernon, whose conviction was upheld in state courts, was denied a review by the U. S. justices originally, but later started habeas corpus proceedings. The federal court was asked to pass upon dismissal of the latter, and Thursday's stay was to permit a study of it.

Gov. Dixon, who previously had said he "personally" planned no further delays for either man, immediately announced Bell would be granted a reprieve, pending final disposition of Vernon's appeal.

Within two hours before they were scheduled to die, the U. S. court ordered a stay recently to permit an appeal from Montgomery Circuit to the Alabama Supreme Court of a denial of Vernon's habeas corpus petition. Dixon then saved Bell, too, because the courts were powerless to act, since his case was not before them.

ALABAMA COPS STILL RAMPANT; GIRL 13, SHOT

Defender
Commissioner At Capital
Is 'Willing To Forget'
Officer's Conduct

FEB 1 1941

MONTGOMERY, Ala.

With conflicting versions of a shooting, Dorothy Greenwood lies critically injured at the Fraternal hospital here this week. The 13-year-old girl was shot through the head January 18 by Officer E. W. Hamilton, who burst into the Greenwood home brandishing a revolver and demanding to know who was "raising hell."

According to the officer's prepared statement that significantly anticipated the demand for an investigation following the shooting, he went to the Greenwood home at the request of a man who complained that "there was a Negro man at 444 Race street with a pistol who was raising a disturbance."

The officer declared that he entered the house to investigate the report and that his pistol, which was "cocked," went off accidentally, the bullet striking the girl.

But according to James Greenwood, brother of the victim, Hamilton entered the back door of the house, menacing the occupants with his drawn revolver. Hamilton cursed, according to James, and said, "What you doing, nigger?"

While James tried to explain that there was no one "raising hell," Hamilton saw the girl sitting with her mother in front of the fireplace. The policeman cursed and fired the shot that struck down the girl, said James.

Police Commissioner W. P. Screws said he was "willing to let the case drop" and that he considered the whole thing "pure accident." The only investigation so far has been conducted by the police themselves.

Commissioner Screws, in trying to explain the shooting, said, "Looking at it from every angle, there was really no motive for firing the

shot at all. It was just one of those unfortunate things."

Another explanation was that the visibility in the room was bad at the time and the officer did not see the girl when he fired.

Race leaders here plan to appeal to the N.A.A.C.P. for a more searching investigation of the circumstances surrounding the shooting.

News

Birmingham, Ala.

99-Year Term Given
To Negro Burglar

APR 2 1941

A 99-year prison sentence was imposed Wednesday on Willie Nelms Shead, 33-year-old Negro, when convicted by a jury in Circuit Judge Robert J. Wheeler's court on a charge of night-time burglary of an inhabited dwelling, a capital offense in Alabama.

Shead was charged with burglarizing the home of Mrs. C. E. Pierce, 818 West Sixth Street. City Detective McCoy Helton testified that a 10 p.m. Thursday by long distance telephone of the Supreme Court's decision, with the pair slated to die shortly after midnight. Atty. Smith represented only Vernon, but after the stay was received from Washington in his case, Gov. Dixon was advised and granted a stay to Bell, owing to similarity of their cases.

Shead repudiated a confession he is said to have made to city detectives, asserting the officers demanded he make the statement.

Assistant Solicitor Burgin Hawkins requested that he be allowed to proceed Wednesday in one of the four remaining cases against Shead, but Judge Wheeler continued all of the cases until Monday. Shead was represented by Judge Wheeler's son, Malcomb Wheeler, and Hollis Parrish, Jr., both of whom were appointed by the court.

In the four remaining cases, Shead is charged with two night-time burglaries and two criminal attacks against white women. In one of the burglary cases he is charged with entering the home of City Detective Fred Cain while the officer was asleep.

APR 2 1941

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

Supreme Court Saves Negro In 11th Hour Execution Stay

JAN 31 1941

Less than two hours before they were due to die in the electric chair at Kilby Prison, two Jefferson County negroes—Joe Vernon and L. C. Bell—were reprieved Thursday night—one by action of the U. S. Supreme Court and the other, convicted as a party to a joint crime, by order of Gov. Dixon.

Walter S. Smith, Birmingham attorney representing the Association for Advancement of Colored People, made a last minute appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court after his petition for writ of habeas corpus had been turned down Thursday both by Judge Eugene Carter, in Circuit Court here, and by the Alabama Supreme Court. Atty. Gen. Lawson was advised after McCoy Helton testified that a coat found in the Pierce residence matched a pair of trousers found in the Negro's home. Mrs. Pierce screamed when she discovered a Negro in her room, frightening him away. Her husband was asleep in another part of the house.

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In the four remaining cases, Shead is charged with two night-time burglaries and two criminal attacks against white women. In one of the burglary cases he is charged with entering the home of City Detective Fred Cain while the officer was asleep.

Calling attention to this fact, the Alabama Supreme Court, in its decision Thursday, wrote:

"We are of the opinion the petition for writ of habeas corpus upon its face discloses that the proceedings present but a second effort to review the questions fully considered and determined on appeal both in this court and the Supreme Court of the United States.

"It is indeed but a collateral attack upon the decisions of these two courts rendered after due consideration. Of consequence, the court is of the opinion no order for suspension of the sentence or further postponement should here be entered...."

Vernon's plea for a writ of habeas corpus was based on contention that negroes were "intentionally and systematically barred" from the jury that indicted him.

News

Birmingham, Ala.

Condemned Negro
Loses His Appeal

FEB 20 1941

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—(AP)—The Alabama Supreme Court Thursday sustained the Montgomery Circuit Court in denial of a writ of habeas corpus for Joe Vernon, sentenced to die in Kilby Prison's electric chair, and counsel for the Negro indicated an appeal would be made immediately to the United States Supreme Court on a contention the man was indicted by a Grand Jury in Jefferson County from which Negroes were excluded.

Vernon and L. C. Bell, another Negro, were convicted of the 1938 killing of Bernie Montgomery, Birmingham filling station attendant, during a holdup.

Gov. Dixon has stayed execution of the sentence until Feb. 28, while the habeas corpus petition was in state courts.

And with Vernon's hopes were linked those of L. C. Bell, convicted with him in the robbery-slaying of Bennie Montgomery, Birmingham filling station attendant, in 1937.

The contention is predicated on the concept of the fourteenth amendment of the constitution of the United States, and the act of Congress, which provides that 'no citizen possessing all other qualifications, shall be disqualifed for service as a grand or petit juror in any court of the United States, or of any state, on account of race, color or previous condition of servitude....'

News

Birmingham, Ala.

5 A.M. Just Too Early For Buying Groceries, So Negroes Go To Jail

MAR 19 1941

When Radio Patrolmen Newman and Joy, alert young morning shift officers, came upon William Johnson and John Reese, Negroes, their arms laden with groceries, on a Northside street about 5 a.m. Wednesday the two officers decided it was entirely too early for the Negroes to have been shopping.

The officers took the Negroes, along with 22 pounds of rice, 30 pounds of flour and 16½ pounds of sugar to police headquarters, where under questioning by City Detectives Howell and Phillips, the Negroes admitted getting the groceries near the rear door of the Greenwood Cafe. The detective said the Negroes also admitted paying 50 cents in advance for the groceries, which were dropped to them by a dishwasher from a second-story window.

MAR 19 1941

The dishwasher, Ois Granger, Negro, along with Johnson and Reese, was taken to Southside Jail on a petty larceny charge. In Police Court Wednesday morning, the dishwasher denied knowledge of the theft of the groceries after the other two Negroes testified he was involved.

City Recorder Martin continued the case until Thursday morning to allow the officers time to obtain additional evidence against the dishwasher.

15-1941

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

Pure Accident Officers Aver

Shooting Of Negro Girl Is Explained Away In Police Report

Dorothy Greenwood, 13-year-old negro girl, was in critical condition Tuesday in Fraternal Hospital, a bullet in her brain from the gun of a policeman—a gun which went off through "pure accident" and "by some means or other" according to the officer, Patrolman J. W. Hamilton.

The girl was shot Saturday afternoon. Reporters did not learn of it until Tuesday and then through complaints of white employees in the neighborhood of her home, 444 Race Street, North Montgomery. However, when Chief of Police Ralph King was queried Tuesday, he pulled out a previously prepared statement signed by Officer Hamilton and his partner, J. R. Rucker, in which the officers completely exonerated themselves.

JAN 22 1941

The girl's brother and mother told a different story. The brother, James Greenwood, told a story of policeman entering the back door and throwing a gun in his face. As he was trying to explain that there had been no disturbance, that they must have the wrong house, the officer cursed and levelled his gun at the 13-year-old girl, sitting beside her mother on the hearth and fired, Greenwood said. Later, the negro said, the officers who did the shooting cursed and told his partner to "shut up" when asked by him "What did you want to shoot that little girl for?"

The girl's mother told the same story. Her father, who said he reached the house only after the shooting took place, said that the officer who did the shooting told him he "thought somebody was trying to get away" when he fired.

Officer Hamilton, in his prepared statement, told of going to the home of the Greenwood family with his partner, to quell a reported disturbance. The disturbance, he said, was reported by "a negro man whom I did not know." On arriving at the house, he found no disturbance, only a woman washing dishes, and in another room a woman and a girl sitting by the fire. What happened there is told in the officer's own words:

"I told her I had a call here that someone was raising sand, the woman told me that there was no

trouble here. I still had my pistol in my hand and it was still cocked, and by some means or other it went off, the bullet struck this little girl in the head."

"I rushed to my car and called for an ambulance and rushed the girl to the hospital. I had no hard feelings with no one there and did not intend to shoot this girl nor no one else. It was a pure accident."

Condition of the Greenwood girl was reported slightly improved late Tuesday night.

Light-Fingered, Six Trusties Get Doghouse

JAN 24 1941

Six Atmore negro trusties have been degraded from their favored estate and consigned to the doghouse—14 days of bread and water—and indictments will be sought against several residents of the vicinity, as result of theft of clothing and supplies from the prison.

Some weeks ago, a cow disappeared from the prison herd; blankets, rain-coats, and other items followed. Col. W. E. Persons, State prison director, enlisted the aid of Chief Weller Smith of the highway patrol. Chief Smith sent a detail under Capt. N. W. Kimbrough, which scoured the countryside and uncovered a trail of loot and larceny even more extensive than had been anticipated.

Col. Persons said Thursday that State property recovered from five homes in the neighborhood included 10 to 15 blankets; two mule collars; 12 sacks of corn; 4 or 5 raincoats; several pairs of rubber boots; about 15 suits of underwear and the same number of pairs of socks. These goods, he said, were filched by trusties and disposed of to friends living nearby.

Col. Persons was unstinted in his praise of the way the Smith-Kimbrough combination functioned in breaking up this wholesale pilfering. He said that indictments for receiving stolen property will be sought against those found in possession of the goods.

To cap the climax, the stolen cow, evidently abandoned when the pursuit got hot, was recovered—accompanied by a sturdy calf not hitherto listed among prison assets.

ALABAMA

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

Police Arrested

13,714 In 1940
JAN 8-1941

Arrests by the Montgomery police department in 1940 totaled 13,714, the annual report of Chief Ralph King revealed Tuesday. The report made public by Gen. W. P. Screws, commissioner of public safety, showed fines assessed aggregated \$51,818 with \$38,750.98 collected.

Whites were less law-abiding than negroes, if the activities of the police department were an accurate indication. During the year there were 8,050 white males and 1,180 white females arrested, compared with 3,774 negro men and 710 negro women.

Convictions numbered 7,445. Disposal of other cases included: 536 discharged, 472 dismissed, 1,361 not prosessed, 258 bound over to grand jury, 1,091 cases pending. The recorder sentenced 537 persons to hard labor and jail sentences ranging from one day to six months.

Violations of the law were more numerous on Saturdays than any other day in the year, or the policemen were more successful in apprehending them on that day. The report showed 2,878 Saturday arrests. Friday was second with 1,893. The people were more orderly and law abiding on the Sabbath than any other day.

Nearly every kind of charge known to the police was included in the long list of offenses allegedly committed by the 13,714 persons arrested, but violations of the traffic law led all others with 4,041. A total of 1,443 names were docketed for collision; 431 for assault and battery; 747 disorderly conduct; 145 driving while intoxicated; 1,544 drunkenness; 505 violating the revenue law; 408 speeding; 172 larceny; 138 grand larceny; 245 fighting; 747 disorderly conduct; 111 vagrancy; 201 violating the prohibition law; 180 violating sanitary law; 143 trespassing; 21 murder; 86 assault to murder.

Doctor Performs Near Miracle In Sewing Man's Head On Body

FEB 1, 1941

Journal +

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP)—Although his head was nearly severed from his body by an opponent who stuck a knife in his neck below his right ear and walked around him, Nathan Vaughn, 27, was reported to be "doing swell" and has an excellent chance to recover after being stitched together again at Hillman hospital.

The wound, incurred when a drinking party broke up in a fight, extended from ear to ear at the back of his neck and was three inches deep. It was large enough to insert a human hand and the backbone was exposed when Vaughn was brought to the hospital.

Dr. Vincent Schellicci worked for an hour and a half on the victim, producing the most extensive stitching job in recent history. He had to stitch every muscle together, then the outside skin. He couldn't estimate the number of sutures, but used four rolls of catgut, each roll three feet long.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Ala. Slayers Given Stays Of Execution

FEB 8 1941

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—Two men who were sentenced to die in the electric chair January 30 for the slaying of Bennie Montgomery, filling station attendant, received stays of execution, one through court action and the other through executive reprieve.

Joe Vernon of Birmingham, through his Washington attorney, obtained a stay of execution from Associate Judge Felix Frankfurter until his counsel could file a motion for a review of the case by the United States Supreme court.

L. C. Bell, the second to be executed, was granted a reprieve by Gov. Frank M. Dixon after the clerk of the United States Supreme

court had advised Attorney General Thomas S. Lawson of the stay.

The Alabama Supreme court earlier had sustained a lower court's action in denying Vernon's plea for a writ of habeas corpus. The plea stated that Vernon had been denied the constitutional rights because Negroes were "intentionally and systematically barred" from juries.

News
Birmingham, Ala.
Fingerprints Bring
Trouble To Negro

FEB 26 1941

Observation and deduction, those two attributes which made the detective work of Sherlock Holmes famous, came prominently into play here Wednesday to trap John Lewis Cleveland, Negro.

When arrested and finger-printed Feb. 9 on charges of driving a car while intoxicated and driving without a license, Cleveland told officers he could not write and did not sign his fingerprint record.

Cleveland went to court and was found guilty on both charges and fined \$100 and costs and sentenced to 30 days in jail on the driving while intoxicated charge, plus \$50 and costs on the other charge. He promptly appealed the verdict and went his way rejoicing.

In the Bureau of Identification the officers observed he had not signed his fingerprint record. They also observed he had signed his appeal bond. They therefore deduced he could write and that his original plea that he could not had something behind it.

Ergo, they airmailed his fingerprints to the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Washington, were promptly informed Cleveland is wanted in Cincinnati for a murder committed July 4, 1937. Confronted with this information, Cleveland, upon arrest, admitted he was wanted in the Ohio city and waived extradition. Ohio officers are en route to Birmingham to take custody.

The charges here will be dropped, authorities said..

February 14, 1941

CHASE ENDS IN ARREST

A long chase on the Northside Thursday afternoon ended when City Detectives Abe Goldstein and D. L. Houston stopped a fleeing ice truck and arrested two Negroes on charges of violating the city lottery laws. The Negroes, John Crumble, 41, of 1129 North Twentieth Street, and Garnett Enry, 53, of 1104 North Twentieth Street, also were charged with speeding and reckless driving, the detectives said. The detectives said one of the Negroes was "pickup man" for a lottery house here known as the "Zippo."

Gadsden, Ala., Times

February 7, 1941

New Reprieves Granted Birmingham Negroes

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Feb. 7.—(AP)—A new lease on life was held today by Joe Vernon and L. C. Bell, Birmingham negroes, whose death sentences for murder have been held up several times previously by court action.

Governor Dixon late yesterday reprieved the pair until March 7, in view of a United States supreme court order staying Vernon's execution until today pending further litigation.

Vernon and Bell were convicted of killing Bennie Montgomery, filling station attendant, in a holdup in Birmingham in 1937.

Last week the United States supreme court granted a stay of execution in Vernon's case to give his counsel time for further appeals. Petition for a writ of habeas corpus, denied in Montgomery circuit court, was appealed to the state supreme court yesterday and may be heard next week.

Huntsville, Ala., Times

January 31, 1941

Negroes Stayed At Last Minute

Warden All Prepared For Execution When Order Received

MONTGOMERY, Jan. 31 (AP) — Eleventh-hour action by Associate Justice Felix Frankfurter in Washington and an executive reprieve here saved two Birmingham negroes from electrocution at Kilby prison early today.

Joe Vernon and L. C. Bell, convicted of the robbery-slaying of Bennie Montgomery, filling station attendant, had been prepared for execution when Warden Earl Wilson received word shortly before midnight that a stay of execution had been granted for Vernon.

Negro and white prison chaplains, a Catholic priest, and a Sal-

vation Army major were holding Richard Cox on a "tip" was pointed "last" services for the negroes as the warden entered death row at 11:55 p. m.—five minutes before the electric current was due to be applied—and told the negroes to be the only witness in the case. their new lease on life.

Leaping into the air and shouting, Bell told Warden Wilson:

"I'm the gladdest negro in Kilby tonight. Some may be going free tomorrow, but I'm happier than any."

Eight or ten other men in death row cheered.

Justice Frankfurter granted Vernon a stay of execution to allow counsel for the negro time in which to file a writ of certiorari, seeking a review of the state Supreme court's action, denying a writ of habeas corpus.

Action of the Supreme court justice followed a dramatic series of events yesterday.

Governor Frank M. Dixon denied reprieves for the negroes. Then the Alabama Supreme court sustained a lower court's action in denying Vernon's plea for a writ of habeas corpus. Vernon's council based their plea on a contention that negroes were excluded from the jury that indicted him.

Frantic, last minute efforts were made. Attorney Walter Smith called Washington associates. Finally, Leon A. Ransom, counsel for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, obtained a stay.

Supreme court attaches telephoned Warden Wilson and Attorney General T. S. Lawson, and directed them to halt the execution of Vernon.

Roland Mushat, Governor Dixon's secretary, then announced a reprieve for Bell.

Ransom said in Washington he understood the stay granted by Justice Frankfurter was for usual period of 90 days.

Washington Post

Washington, D. C.

Suspect Held As Woman's Holdup Slayer

FEB 17 1941

Youth, 18, Questioned After Witness Says 'That's the Man'

Police last night questioned an 18-year-old colored youth arrested in connection with the fatal shooting during a holdup Saturday night of Mrs. Fannie Cohen, 56, proprietor of a dress shop at 1512 U Street Northwest.

The suspect, arrested by Lieut.

Richard Cox on a "tip" was pointed out as the holdup man who fired point blank at Mrs. Cohen by a liquor truck delivery boy, believed to be the only witness in the case.

Confronting the suspect yesterday

the witness, whose name police requested be withheld, is said to have remarked "That's the man . . . I could have picked him out of a hundred others."

Despite the fact that Inspector B. W. Thompson, chief of detectives, announced that the reward for information leading to the apprehension of the killer had been raised from \$100 to \$200, police said the case "looked good."

Meanwhile, Thompson said an earlier suspect held for investigation would be released in view of the fact that he said he was in Alexandria Saturday night.

Mrs. Cohen, who lived at 1419 R Street Northwest, was about to close the store when she was confronted by the bandit who apparently fired when she screamed.

The delivery boy who said he witnessed the shooting while passing by the window claimed to have followed the colored man to Fifteenth and R Streets Northwest.

Commercial Appeal

Memphis, Tennessee

NEGRO DRIVER IS HELD IN PEDESTRIAN DEATH

MAR 2 1941

Manuel Jones Bound Over To Grand Jury

Manuel Jones, 34, negro, rear 863 Estival, arrested as the hit-and-run driver who fatally injured a 60-year-old pedestrian at Turley and Fourth Thursday night, was bound over to the Shelby County Grand Jury yesterday on a manslaughter charge.

MAR 2 - 1941

Jones, appearing before City Judge Bateman, was accused of traveling at an excessive rate of speed when his automobile struck and killed Henry Wilson, negro, rear 475 Union. A \$25 fine was assessed against him for allegedly fleeing the scene of the accident.

Other traffic cases yesterday included:

Jimmie Smith, 30, of 492 North Fourth, failure to yield right of way, \$10 forfeit; William B. Gilliam, 24, of 1274 South Wellington, speeding 43 miles an hour, \$35 forfeit; Harold E. Parker, 21, of 1075 Meda, reckless driving, fined \$10 no driver's license, dismissed.

News

Birmingham, Ala.

Science And Detectives' Skill Fasten Burglaries On Negro

Tiny Bits Of Evidence On Piece Of Broken Glass Send Delivery Boy To Jail

FEB 20 1941

BY DANNY DANENBERG

The science of modern crime detection methods in the Birmingham Police Bureau of Identification and shrewd detective work of a pair of detective team as Lozel Clark, 18, veteran city detectives Henry Weir of Tarrant, was arrested by the and McCoy Helton, Wednesday had been combined to link Walter Clark, Monday. In the Negro's pockets 17-year-old Negro delivery boy with the detectives said they found a two and possibly three house wide variety of jewelry ranging from watches to wedding rings. A

Investigating the burglary of the home of H. M. Johnson, 309 Jackson Street, Detectives Weir and Helton found a thumb print on a broken piece of glass in a rear window where the burglar had entered the Johnson residence.

Science Brings Results

They brought the glass to E. W. Jackson, superintendent of the Police Identification Bureau, who enlarged the right thumb print (called a latent print) about 10 times its original size. Then search through his files of thousands of fingerprint cards, Jackson soon produced a card with a right thumb print identical with the one found at the scene of the crime.

FEB 25 1941

He handed the fingerprint card to the detectives with a matter of fact "Here's your man."

The detectives put the latent fingerprint in their pocket and hurried to Southside Jail where a short time earlier they had placed Walter Clark as a suspect of the burglaries.

Shown the latent fingerprint and told of the positive identification made of it at the bureau, the Negro readily admitted his guilt.

A short time later a pistol, diamond ring and other loot stolen from the Johnson home was recovered through the Negro's confession, the detectives said.

Having admitted the burglary of the Johnson residence the Negro next admitted, the detectives said, of having burglarized the home of Mrs. J. H. Bartlett, 836 McMillan Avenue, in which a raincoat and handkerchiefs valued at \$5 were stolen. Most of this loot was also recovered by the detectives.

Had Taste For Sweets

At the residence of a Mrs. Coe, 1304 Alabama Avenue, the Negro admitted the theft of two large cases of candy valued at \$22, but denied having broken into the place claiming the rear door had inadvertently been left open, the detectives said.

Warrants charging the Negro with two cases of burglary and grand larceny have been obtained by the detectives, they said.

Meanwhile City Detective Virgil Sandefer and his brother, Detective Woody Sandefer cleared up a \$500 burglary of the Tarrant Jewelry

News

Birmingham, Ala.

Negro Turns Self Into 'Walking Bar'; Lands Behind Bars

Did you ever see a "bar" walking?

Well, City Detectives Helton and Appling did.

When the two detectives arrested Sam Nelson, 54, Negro, he had in his pocket two quarts of corn liquor and two whisky glasses.

APR 4 1941

The officers brought the portable bar" to Police Headquarters, confiscated the liquor and sent Sam to jail.

In Police Court Thursday the Negro pleaded guilty to possession of illegal liquor and was fined \$50 and costs and sentenced to 30 days in jail.

15-1941

Gadsden, Ala., Times
October 26, 1941

16 Capital Cases Handled In Court

Assault To Murder, Burglary, Forgery, And Incest On List

Circuit court did a record business last week by disposing of 16 jail cases, six of which involved capital offenses. Three of these capital cases were tried by jury and three resulted in pleas of guilty to reduced charges.

In all, there were seven trials in the week. Two of the capital cases involved criminal attacks on white women by Negroes. It was one of the busiest weeks on record for Judge J. H. Disque, who presided.

The following jail cases were disposed of: L. E. Prentiss, charged with burglary, pleaded guilty and was sentenced to three years in prison.

Gayron Shropshire, burglary, pleaded guilty in three cases and was sentenced to a total of six years in prison.

Noble Stone, assault to murder, pleaded guilty, sentenced to two years in prison.

Milton Cantrell, forgery. After entering into trial the defendant withdrew his plea of not guilty and pleaded guilty. He was sentenced to two years in the penitentiary.

Doc Helm, burglary and grand larceny, found guilty by jury and sentenced to five years in prison. He gave notice of appeal, but elected to begin serving his sentence.

Woodson J. Brown, burglary and grand larceny. After entering into trial, Brown changed his plea of not guilty to one of guilty. Sentence was passed to hear his application for probation.

Thomas Kimble, incest. The case was passed for sentence on appeal for probation.

Carl and Robert Cochran, robbery, found guilty of assault and fined \$500 each. They were each given six months at hard labor

in addition to the fine.

Eddie Nix, burglary and grand larceny, pleaded guilty, sentenced passed pending application for probation.

William Lee Hollifield, burglary and grand larceny, pleaded guilty, sentence passed until court could hear application for probation.

Clark Green, assault on woman, found guilty by jury and sentenced to pay fine of \$500, sentence passed for application for probation.

J. T. Norris, grand larceny, found not guilty by the jury. He was prosecuted on an indictment found in 1936.

Julius R. Kelley, criminal assault on a woman, found guilty by jury and given life imprisonment.

Birmingham, Ala. News
October 18, 1941

Negro On Probation On Roosevelt Threat

Because he threatened to kill President Roosevelt unless he sent him \$4,000, Albert Franklin Latham, 44-year-old Anniston Negro, must report periodically to the federal probation officer in this district.

Arraigned before U. S. Dist. Judge T. A. Murphree late Friday, before whom he had previously pleaded guilty to an indictment based on the charge, Latham was granted probation. Investigation of his case showed he had never been in court before and that domestic trouble was alleged to have been the basis of his defendant.

Latham was arrested last April by Secret Service agents after he had mailed the alleged threatening letter to the chief executive.

The Alabama Governor's requisition was accompanied by copy of and indictment in two courts returned by the Russell County, Alabama, Grand Jury in spring of 1937, charging that the defendant obtained \$100.00 under false pretense and that he mortgaged a pair of mules to secure \$100.00 note when mules were already mortgaged.

Counsel for defendant pointed out several defects in the requisition papers, but insisted as fatal defects, the fact that the Alabama Governor's Certificate was not authentic in that it was signed, sealed and dated September 30, 1941 in Montgomery, Alabama, and was presented by a deputy sheriff of Russell County, Alabama, at the office of the Attorney General of Indiana before 5:00 p.m. on the

ALABAMA

Globe and Independent Nashville, Tenn. Schricker Saves Negro From Alabama "Justice"

NOV 24 1941

Governor Heeds Plea of Mob Violence

SOUTH BEND, Ind.—Governor Henry F. Schricker headed the pleas of Attorney Chas. H. Wills Federal Agents in the investigation of South Bend, Indiana, and Senator Robert Lee Brokenburr of Indianapolis, that the defendant could not have a fair trial in Russell County, Alabama, because of race and dispose of him so he could not aid the Federal Government in the

there for trial, and refused to extradite Mason Davis of South Bend, Indiana, at hearing on requisition Chicago, Indiana. He moved to papers for his surrender by the South Bend in the fall of 1937, Governor of Alabama, held Friday where he has lived ever since. He morning, October 5, 1941, in Gov-

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Mason Davis was arrested at one a draftee in the Army; he is South Bend on September 18th of buying his home at 605 Eddy street fugitive from justice warrant and and is employed by the Wilson

Brothers' Shirt factory of this city; appearance bond. Chas. H. Wills, he is 57 years old and steward in former Justice of Peace of St. Joseph County, his attorney at once

notified the Governor that extradition would be fought and requested notice of hearing on requisition. The hearing was set for Wednesday, October 1st, and continued until Friday morning to permit counsel to submit additional facts on issues raised. Senator Brokenburr

appeared with Mr. Wills and ably assisted at both hearings.

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same date; and further that the indictment accompanying requisition did not allege any date, not even the year in which the alleged offense was committed. Counsel submitted evidence that Mason Davis was a tenant farmer on the plantation of a Russell County planter; that the planter had cashed the AAA checks of the Negro tenants, and in 1936 the Federal Agents began an investigation; that forced three other tenants to say they received the money, but Mason Davis refused, and has co-operated with

the planters. Counsel argued that this prosecution was for revenge and an effort to get Mason Davis back in Russell County, Alabama, because of race and dispose of him so he could not aid the Federal Government in the

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News

Birmingham, Ala. Negroes Again Get Stay Of Execution

MAR 6 1941

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—(P)—Two Alabama Negroes, scheduled to be electrocuted at Kilby Prison Thursday night, cheated death for a second time within a month Thursday, through stays granted by the U. S. Supreme Court and Gov. Dixon.

They are L. C. Bell and Joe Vernon, condemned in the 1938 holdup-slaying of Bennie Montgomery, Birmingham service station attendant.

The first time the federal tribunal intervened, Vernon and Bell were to have been put to death within an hour, and Thursday's stays came in the thirteenth hour before the scheduled execution.

Only Vernon, who is now seeking a writ of habeas corpus after refusal of both the state and federal justices to intervene in his original appeal, was affected by Thursday's stay of the Supreme Court. Gov. Dixon, however, changed a previous decision against granting either man a further reprieve and stayed electrocution of Bell until the Vernon case is disposed of finally.

The state has disputed contention of Vernon's counsel in his habeas corpus petition that Negroes were barred because of race and color from the jury that indicted him.

Advertiser

Montgomery, Ala.

Negro Found Guilty Of Coffee Murder

MAR 7 1941

ENTERPRISE, ALA., March 6.—(P)—After deliberating 45 minutes a jury in Circuit Court today found Bud Phelps Herring, negro, guilty of a charge of murder in the recent slaying of Mrs. Euna C. Peacock, of New Brockton, and fixed the sentence at death. Judge C. C. Bramen set April 11 as the date for the execution of Herring.

Evidence was offered to the jury that Mrs. Peacock was slain in woods near her home Oct. 5, 1940, and her body left floating in a pond. She had been gathering brush for brooms. It was said.

Herring entered a plea of not guilty, but did not take the stand. Defense Attys. J. W. Hicks and Harry Adams gave notice of an appeal.

15-1941

Commercial Appeal
Memphis, Tennessee

COURT SAVES NEGRO

SENTENCED TO DEATH

21 1941

**Arkansas Tribunal Modifies
Drew County Order**

CRASH AWARD IS AFFIRMED

**Sebastian County Residents
Upheld In \$2000 Judgment
Against Supply House Owner—Other Rulings**

By The Associated Press

LITTLE ROCK, Jan. 20.—The supreme court Monday set aside the death sentence given Henry Gulley, negro, in Drew Circuit Court for the killing of Louis White, another negro, near Tilla Sept. 15, 1940, modifying the lower court decree by fixing punishment at 21 years.

In its review, the high tribunal held the charge against Gulley, who pleaded self-defense, should be reduced from first to second degree murder, in view of the absence of evidence that the shooting of White was deliberate or premeditated.

Award JAN 21 1941
Three personal injury damage judgments were affirmed, as follows:

Award in Franklin Circuit Court of a \$2000 judgment to Mrs. Flora Ramey and a \$1200 judgment to her husband, W. R. Ramey, of northern Sebastian County, against Louis Cohen, owner of a Fort Smith office supply house, for injuries the Rameys alleged they suffered in an auto collision in Sebastian County May 17, 1938. Mr. Cohen claimed contributory negligence on the part of the Rameys and challenged service of summons in Franklin County when he went to Ozark to address a civic club. The high court held the 1939 Venue Act was not in effect at the time of suit and action could be brought in any county where service could be obtained.

Worker Wins Suit

Award of \$3000 to Luther Mize, 28, of Ben Lomand, against D. F. Jones Construction Co., Little Rock, in Sevier Circuit Court, for injuries allegedly suffered in 1939 while working for the company on

a paving project.

Award of \$500 to Calvin Sorrels, Benton, against Missouri Pacific Railway in Saline Circuit Court for injuries he alleged he suffered in 1939 while attempting to get off a train at Traskwood.

The following proceedings were had and decisions rendered in the Supreme Court Monday:

BY CHIEF JUSTICE GRIFFIN SMITH: 6156. Turner Furnishing Goods Co. vs. Garland Snyder, from Boone Chancery; affirmed on appeal and cross appeal.

6180. D. F. Jones Construction Co. vs. Luther Mize, from Sevier Circuit, affirmed.

BY JUSTICE SMITH: 6157. Missouri Pacific Railroad Co. vs. Calvin Sorrells, from Saline Circuit; affirmed.

6163. A. N. Garrett et al vs. Roy Sturges Lumber Co. et al, from Grant Circuit; affirmed.

6159. Louis Cohen vs. Flora Ramey et al, from Franklin Circuit; affirmed.

BY JUSTICE MEHAFFY: 6151. I. J. Friedman vs. John E. Short, from Sebastian Circuit; affirmed.

BY JUSTICE McHANEY: 4194. Henry Gulley vs. State, from Drew Circuit; modified and affirmed reduced from death sentence to 21 years in penitentiary; Justice Smith dissents.

6158. Washington National Insurance Co. vs. Mamie Simmons, from Logan Circuit; reversed and judgment for appellee on appellant's tender.

BY JUSTICE HOLT: 4195. Joda Gentry vs. State, from Saline Circuit; affirmed.

6164. Jane Mewber vs. James W. Mewber, from Garland Chancery; reversed and dismissed.

ORDERS PER CURIAM: 6109. H. T. Bufkin vs. J. H. McDaniel, from Miller Circuit; rehearing denied.

6337. Eda Schuman vs. A. S. Irby, Chancellor; petition for prohibition to Lawrence Chancery Court; temporary writ granted; petition set for submission on motion to make permanent Feb. 3, 1941.

MOTION, ORDERS, ETC.: 6121. Wyatt Lumber & Supply Co., Inc. vs. Otto Hansen, from Union Chancery; submitted on rehearing.

6124. Lawrence E. Johnson vs. Pierce Foster, from Union Chancery; submitted on rehearing.

6295. Standard Oil Co. of Louisiana vs. Violet Craig, from Union Chancery; record amended under Rule 24.

4196. Jack Strickbine vs. State, from Pike Circuit; appellant given two weeks from date for brief.

6329. Maleita Woodcock vs. John H. Woodcock, from Garland Chancery; submitted on motion for costs and attorney's fees pending appeal.

6211. Vernon Craven et al. vs. Fred Thompson et al., from Poinsett Chancery; appeal dismissed for failure to comply with Rule 9 and failure to return summons.

6297. City of West Memphis vs. West Memphis Power & Water Co., from Crittenton Chancery; appeal dismissed on motion of appellant.

The following petitioners were granted licenses:

Caldwell Tucker Bennett, Leachville; Veit Aull Hain Jr., Little Rock; Pettus U. Kincannon, Washington, D. C.

SUBMISSIONS:

6166. L. D. Young et al. vs. Charles M. Blocker, Trustee, et al., from Miller Chancery; argued orally.

6259. J. W. Love vs. J. C. McDonald, from LaFayette Chancery.

6291. Crawford County vs. City of Van Buren, from Crawford Circuit.

6165. Pacific National Fire Insurance Co. vs. J. F. Sult, from Lee Circuit.

6167. Roy W. Jeffery et al. vs. Orth Bros. & Co., Inc., from Independence Circuit.

6168. Joe H. Dowdle vs. C. C. Byrd, Guardian, from Chicot Chancery.

6189. Effie Dunbar (Elliott) vs. Sewell D. Cook, Guardian, from Union Probate.

6170. Dierks Lumber & Coal Co. vs. W. A. Tedford, from Howard Circuit.

6172. George A. Hurst vs. Bar Rules Committee, from Washington Circuit.

6173. J. P. Rider vs. W. L. McElroy, from Franklin Circuit.

6177. A. B. Mayberry vs. Clyde Penn, from Benton Chancery.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

ARKANSAS

Commercial Appeal
Memphis, Tennessee

NEGRO CLEANUP OPENS

IN WINNE AND PARKIN

MAR 25 1941

Sheriff Starts On Disarmament Campaign

Special to The Commercial Appeal
WYNNE, Ark., March 24.—Eight

Cross County negroes were arrested in Wynne and Parkin over the week end as officers raided all negro cafes and stores in a "clean-up" campaign.

Sheriff Deloss McKnight said the raids were staged in an effort to quiet negroes throughout the county and to stop numerous killings.

In the raids the officers collected approximately 60 knives of various descriptions, two razors and two guns.

"Cross County has had five negro murders since last Dec. 1," Sheriff McKnight said, "most of which have been the result of minor arguments. Our negroes recently had made it a custom to arm themselves before going to cafes on Saturday night, and we will stage raids every week until the negroes stop carrying dangerous weapons."

Four negroes were arrested on charges of gambling at Parkin, and a large amount of gambling equipment was destroyed by officers.

Besides Wynne and Parkin city officers and county officers, Cliff Atkins of Little Rock, assistant chief of the state police, and Sgt. Bert Frazier of Newport, district state police head, participated in the raids.

CONDITIONS AT ARKANSAS PENAL

F FARMS RIVAL THOSE IN NAZI CAMPS,

REPRESENTATIVE CHARGES

APR 8 1941 INHUMANE TREATMENT

LITTLE ROCK, Ark.—(SNS)—CHARGED

There are concentration camps in Arkansas which will equal in horror any conceivable camps in Nazi Germany, Rep. Edwin Dunaway, by putting a human being through Pulaski County, told members of such inhumane course of treatment," he declared.

Recalling that the "newspapers made much of the fact that the committee retrieved a number of hams and other items," Mr. Dunaway said the committee was "hitting" at the attitude of certain people there who felt that what belongs to the state is theirs."

Referring to Arkansas' prison farms, Representative Dunaway, who served on a House Committee which investigated conditions at the penitentiary, said he found it "ironical" that citizens, who become irate at the thought of conditions in Germany, are not alarmed by similar conditions within the Arkansas penitentiary.

"But I'm sure this acquiescence exists simply because the people are not aware of the true situation," he said.

APR 8 - 1941

**VOCATIONAL FACILITIES
LACKING**

The lack of vocational training facilities were deplored by Mr. Dunaway. He recalled the report of the Federal Prison Industries Commission in 1936 when it recommended that the Arkansas penitentiary produce supplies for other state institutions.

"With all that labor and land available," he said, "they could better devote time to raising livestock and food for prisoners rather than half-starving them, and raising cotton so that the penitentiary can be economically self-supporting."

The trusty system was scored by Mr. Dunaway. He charged that the practice of "political friends of inmates applying pressure upon the prison superintendent until the inmate is given an easy job," destroys any possible morale within the encampments.

He also charged that there was no effort to segregate prisoners suffering from venereal diseases from other prisoners.

"Just take these conditions into account, and then remember that some prisoners are whipped as many as 25 times within a year," he said. "How, then, can we expect a man to be any better when he comes out?"

APR 8 - 1941

Pointing out the two theories, one that a prison is a correctional institution and the other that its function is punitive, Mr. Dunaway said it did not matter which theory one adhered to.

"It's no wonder that graduates of the reformatory later are promoted to the penitentiary," he exclaimed.

BOYS' SCHOOL CRITICIZED

Describing the Boys' Industrial School as "a complete flop," Mr. Dunaway said that the same recommended reforms might be applied to it.

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

~~Wife Of Jobless White Threatens Negro Workers~~

AMITY, Ark. (AP)—Angered because her husband was jobless while Negroes were working, Mrs. Ethel Cross, 45, at noon last Thursday drew a pistol and threatened colored laborers at the Sturgis-Francis sawmill. She was arrested and fined \$50 and costs by Justice Hunter.

Witnesses said Mrs. Cross, mother of three children, was irate because her mate, Garland, was refused employment at the mill. While the laborers were eating noon lunch she went to the mill and ordered them to leave as soon as they finished or else be shot. As she stood waiting for them to finish lunch, mill officials called police who arrested her.

The Negroes are employed as lumber stackers. All live in Arkadelphia and drive to and from work daily. No Negroes live in Amity. About 50 white men are employed at the mill.

Colored Judge

~~SEVEN NEGROES HELD IN LIQUOR TAX CASE~~

OCT 28 1941
Tennessee Product Being Sold

From The Commercial Appeal
Little Rock Bureau

LITTLE ROCK, Oct. 27.—The State Revenue Department arrested seven negroes on charges of selling whisky on which Arkansas tax was not paid and confiscated seven cases of whisky in a series of raids in Crittenden County during the week end.

Bob Faust, assistant supervisor of the Revenue Department's Beverage Division, said all the raids were in Proctor and vicinity.

The confiscated whisky was in half pints and all but one case bore Tennessee liquor tax stamps. The Tennessee rate is four and three-eighths cents as compared with seven cents for a half pint in Arkansas.

Monday afternoon agents smashed two stills in a raid on the "Little Italy" section of Western Pulaski County. Warrants for arrest of two men were issued, Mr. Faust said.

The State Department has intensified a campaign against bootlegging and Sunday liquor sales. Raids also were made at Warren and Crossett last week end.

He also criticized the recently announced policy of the Parole Board to release prisoners 10 days in advance of the end of their term or to provide those, who remained, with a suit of clothes and railroad fare home.

"The strategy of this appears," he said, "to be bribing the prisoners to leave early so that the state will be saved the expense of a suit of clothes and railroad fare. It is a poor way to return a man to the community." — (From Arkansas Democrat).

Commercial Appeal
Memphis, Tennessee

~~12 NEGROES ARRESTED IN FOOD STAMP FRAUD~~

~~13 Grocers May Lose SMA Trading Privileges~~

From The Commercial Appeal
Little Rock Bureau

LITTLE ROCK, Aug. 24.—Investigation of food stamp law violations in Pulaski County had resulted late Tuesday in arrest of 42 negroes who are being held in jail pending formal charges.

Chester H. Kirbert, investigator with the Surplus Marketing Administration regional office at Dallas, said it would be two or three days before charges could be filed. It was reported that those eligible for food stamp relief were getting money from other negroes and buying them stamps on a percentage "commission."

Thirteen grocers are facing possible revocation of authority to take food stamps in trade. James Russell of the Dallas SMA office said he would hold "administrative" hearings of charges against the grocers that they had sold other than surplus goods in exchange for the stamps. He stressed the hearings were not criminal proceedings.

Three Pine Bluff grocers also are being investigated on similar charges.

15-1941

ARKANSAS

Commercial Appeal

Memphis, Tennessee

BODY FOUND IN RIVER

APR 28 1941

Pocahontas Fisherman Finds Unidentified Man In Black River

POCAHONTAS, Ark., April 27.—The body of an unidentified man was discovered in Black River, about half a mile south of Pocahontas, Sunday morning by Paul Gregory as he was running fish nets.

The man, about five feet, nine inches tall and weighing about 185 pounds, had given his age as 72 in a conversation Friday with J. H. Keith, retired railroad worker of Pocahontas. Mr. Keith stated he talked with the man, but that his diction was so broken he could not understand his name or where he was from. APR 28 1941

A coroner's jury summoned by Coroner H. G. McNabb returned a verdict of death by drowning. There was no evidence of foul play and no marks of identification on the body or clothing.

Commercial Appeal

Memphis, Tennessee

Negro Bites Hand That Pardoned Him

From The Commercial Appeal
Little Rock Bureau

APR 27 1941

LITTLE ROCK, April 26.—This is the story of a man who was too kind-hearted for his own good.

Carl E. Bailey, as governor, pardoned Zilmore Hank, 35, negro, and gave him a job as cook in the Bailey home. Later he decided to dispense with Hank's services, but helped the exconvict get a job with a Little Rock restaurant.

Saturday Hank was in jail charged with stealing \$180 from the former governor who had befriended him. Police said Hank retained a back door key to the Bailey home, went there sometime Thursday night and rifled the pockets of Mr. Bailey's trousers as the clothing hung on a chair near Mr. Bailey's bed. APR 27 1941

The neatness with which his trousers were folded aroused the Governor's suspicions. Examination showed the \$160 roll of currency missing. Police tracked down the free-spending Hank who had gotten rid of \$27 of his loot when arrested late Friday.

Hearing for the negro is scheduled Tuesday in City Court.

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

Theatre Owner Slain by Holdup Man; Irvin C. Miller Is Hero

HELENA, Ark., (By James H. Purdy, Jr., for ANP).—George Miller, 37, tailor, second-hand clothing store proprietor and owner of the Plaza Theatre here, was shot to death in the ticket office of his theatre Wednesday night about 11 o'clock by a stickup man later identified by police as A. T. Jones, 19, of Shelby, Miss.

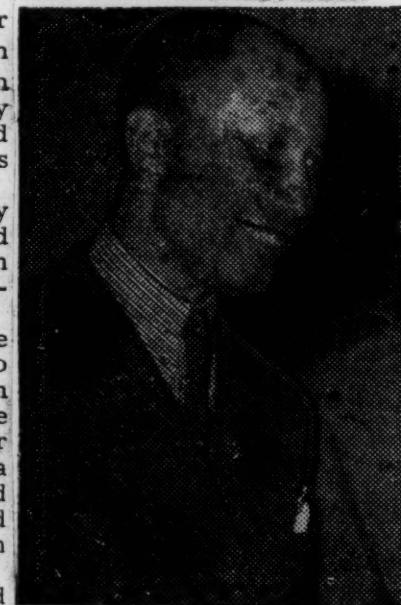
Chief of Police Lucian Webster arrested Jones shortly after Irvin C. Miller, owner of the Brown Skin Models show, assisted by others, had subdued the killer and took his gun. Irvin C. Miller is no relation to the slain man.

Officers said Jones was badly beaten and cut about the head during the melee by Dr. R. Dan Miller, brother of the hold-up victim.

Dr. Miller is reported to have rushed to the scene in answer to the frantic call for help of Irvin C. Miller who was holding the assailant. Seeing that his brother was dead, he rushed inside of a cafe next door to the theatre and grabbed a small meat cleaver and began hacking on the robber with it in order to subdue him.

Officers said that Jones stated he was a licensed preacher and admitted having been responsible for a series of holdups here and in West Helena during the past week in which one man was shot in the back and is now in a hospital here in a serious condition.

George B. Miller, a member of one of Helena's distinguished old families, was the illustrious son of the late Rev. A. H. Miller, former representative of the Arkansas State Legislature, and the late Mrs. E. E. Miller, noted philanthropist. He was a native of Helena and a graduate of Howard University, Washington. He had been trustee of Arkansas Baptist College for several years.



IRVIN C. MILLER
Kansas City, Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Arkansans Boycott A Theater

Protest Kicking Of Woman by a Police Officer

WARREN, Ark.—The Negro citizens of the Warren community have launched a boycott against the Pastime theater in protest to all -- or such officers as Craw-

ford are the ones responsible for the maintenance of the democratic way of life."

"We have directed a boycott of the Pastime Theater and have called upon Negro leaders in the Warren community to use every means at their command to bring forcefully such acts to the attention of the local authorities.

against the kicking of a Negro woman who failed to "get into the alley" to wait until all white patrons had bought their tickets.

The kicking was only one incident in an unending wave of police brutality in Arkansas.

The woman, Mrs. O. Z. Jackson, a well-known member of the Mt. Carmel Baptist church, was kicked by Jess Crawford, white local police officer, in front of the Pastime theater as Mrs. Jackson stood in line waiting to buy a ticket, accompanied by her small daughter.

Negro patrons of the theater had been ordered by the police officer to form a line in the alley adjacent to the theater building and there wait until the sidewalk had been cleared of white patrons.

Mrs. Jackson came up to the theater unaware of the order, and when told to "get into the alley" she sought an understanding of the command which resulted in a vicious kick that sent her sprawling on the concrete walk.

N.A.A.C.P. Into Case

Upon the request of Ruel Jackson, husband of the victim and a mill worker, the Committee on Negro Organization called upon the Warren N. A. A. C. P., of which Jackson is a member, to send a committee to the Mayor and Chief of Police.

W. Harold Flowers, CNO Secretary and fighting Pine Bluff lawyer, to whom Jackson appealed declared that "these ruthless and heathen officers should not be tolerated, and may God spare me of any such unpleasantness."

"I fail to understand the lack of courage manifested by Negro men, particularly when their wives, and mothers are victims of such barbarous acts of brutality. Here, in my way of thinking lies the great danger to democracy -- the fifth columnists in the South seem to be known to all -- or such officers as Craw-

15-1941

CALIFORNIA

Afro-American Pittsburgh Courier
Baltimore, Maryland Pittsburgh, Pa.

Boss Who Kissed Ministers Join Appeal In Maid Pays \$750 JAN 25 1941

LOS ANGELES.—Despite efforts to keep the matter a secret, it was learned this week that pretty Mrs. Juliette Smith has been paid the \$750 awarded her for the kiss which she says her wealthy white employer stole from her.

Court records here indicate the recording of "satisfaction of judgment" in the maid's suit for \$5,000 damages against Quentin Roland Smith, Bel-Air socialite, appeal within a few days.

Mrs. Smith was represented by Hugh E. and Gobert E. Macbeth, attorneys, who cite the case as the first of its kind wherein a white male employer has been compelled by court order to pay for invading the privacy of a colored woman employee.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Press for New Trial in Coast Frameup of Negro SEP 23 1941

Church Group Joins Broad Defense Committee for Festus Coleman

(Special to the Daily Worker)

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 22.—The campaign for a new trial for Festus Lewis Coleman, Negro worker who was railroaded to prison for 65 years in one of the crudest frame-ups ever remembered by this city, is gaining impetus, the Coleman Defense Coordinating Committee, 83 McAllister St. here revealed today.

Latest organization to join the broad defense committee for Coleman is the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance of Oakland and East Bay Cities.

Coleman was convicted of "rape and robbery" by an all-white jury after a trial which lasted less than two days. The jury was out only 45 minutes.

FATHER OF TWO

Coleman, who is the father of two little children, was sentenced by

Cleman was dragged badly beaten to the police station by the officer and another army man and charged with "rape and robbery."

The Coleman Defense Coordinating Committee has the cooperation of the National Negro Congress and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored Peoples as well as a number of AFL and CIO unions and a large number of prominent individuals.

Calif.

15

Judge George Steiger, whose remarks to the jury implied an instruction to find the defendant guilty despite the lack of evidence against him.

Mr. Coleman was arrested as he walked home through the park early one morning and happened upon a Southern army lieutenant with a young girl. The officer, Lieutenant Griffiths, recently from Alabama, insulted Coleman and a fight followed. A few minutes later

15-1941

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

6 GET 240 LASHES AT DELAWARE JAIL

MAR 23 1941

Record Whipping for County Is
Carried Out at Wilmington
Before 75 Spectators

TASK TAKES 8 MINUTES

Warden Applies 40 Strokes to
One Negro Thief in Minute—

Men Face 5 Years Also

WILMINGTON, Del., March 22
(AP)—Delaware cat-o'-nine-tails fell
240 times today on the bared backs
of six prisoners in a record whipping
at the New Castle County
Workhouse, in the presence of
seventy-five spectators.

Warden Elwood H. Wilson ap-
plied the lashes in exactly eight
minutes. Each prisoner received
forty lashes. The previous high for
the number of lashes administered
at one time at the institution was
200. MAR 23 1941

Those lashed had pleaded guilty
in the Court of General Sessions to
nineteen robbery and one larceny
charge. All are Negroes. Each will
serve five years in prison.

The first to be lashed, Preston
Deshields, 27, stood perfectly still
until the seventeenth stroke. After
that he squirmed and jumped
around. It took Warden Wilson
exactly one minute to apply the
forty lashes.

Charles Smith, 29, remained stoic
until the fifth stroke when he
hugged the post and tried to shift
about. Edward H. Newman, 25, of
slight build, jumped and squirmed
so much that it took Warden Wil-
son two minutes to complete the
whipping. John Jacobs, 25; Emory
Nichols, 20, and Albert Cheshire, 27,
didn't seem to mind the whipping

Orangeburg, S. C., Times & Dom.
March 25, 1941

DELAWARE WHIPS NEGROES

Dela-ware is one of the few States that
legalizes the cat-o'-nine-tails in inflicting cor-
poral punishment upon those convicted of
violating the law.

The other day six prisoners received sixty
lashes apiece at the New Castle County
Workhouse in the presence of seventy-five
spectators. The men had been convicted on
charges of robbery and larceny.

Strange, it seems, is the fact that every
prisoner whipped belonged to the Negro race.
In addition to the whipping, they will serve
five years in prison.

DELAWARE

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Spectators Witness Beating Of Six Prisoners In Public

APR 5 - 1941

APR 5 - 1941

WILMINGTON, Del., April 3—Six prisoners, who pleaded guilty to 49
robberies and one larceny charge and have been sentenced to five years impris-
onment in the New Castle county workhouse, were lashed 240 times Saturday
before 75 spectators. Warden Elwood Wilson, white, applied the lashes with a
cat o' nine tails strap on the bared backs of the prisoners in eight minutes.

15-1941

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Waiter Mauled by Conductor Sues Seaboard for \$20,000

Oscar L. Millard, dining car waiter of 2804 Wade Road, Southeast, who got a taste of southern hospitality in the form of a kick in the groin and blows about the body from a conductor between his fist, knocking his victim's head Tampa and Clear Water, Fla., on against the side of the coach, and last April 16, filed suit in the District Court for \$20,000 against the Standard Air Line Railway Company, 714 Fourteenth Street, Northwest, Wednesday evening.

JUL 12 1941

"I started to hit him back," said Mr. Millard, "but I remembered that I was in the South and going further into it."

Tries to Apologize

The waiter said the conductor cursed and abused him about being in the "white people's coach." The employee reported the matter to the steward and the conductor is alleged to have returned about twenty minutes later and said, "John, I guess I was a little bit hasty a while ago. I am willing to forget the whole thing."

When Mr. Millard asserted, "What about me forgetting it?" Conductor Wells is then reported to have telephoned for a special agent who boarded the train at the next station. The conductor is said to have insisted on having personal uses by the employees Mr. Millard locked up.

The suit, filed in behalf of Mr. Millard, who has not been able to work since April 18 because of his injuries, contains two counts, each asking \$10,000. It was recorded by Nathan A. Dobbins, attorney, in behalf of Mr. Millard.

One count charges assault, the second takes up the question of the liability of a common carrier.

Waiter Tells Story

Here is the story told to a representative of The Tribune by Mr. Millard:

He left New York with his train on April 15, and carried a dead-head coach from Washington to St. Petersburg, Fla. As is the custom, the dead-head coach was attached to the dining car for personal uses by the employees in this section.

During the night the empty coach was locked, continued Mr. Millard, and the dining car men began using the wash room in the colored coaches, three cars from the diner. When the train reached Jacksonville, the conductor who took over there asked why the dining men were walking through three coaches to reach the colored section.

JUL 12 1941

It was explained to him that the dead-head coach had been locked. He sent a porter to unlock the door and the dining room men began to use it again for lavatory, wash, and rest period purposes.

Afraid to Strike Back

The train arrived in Tampa around 1:30 p.m., and a conductor whose name is reported to be J. T. Well, took charge. After he took charge for the run into St. Petersburg, a waiter, a third cook, and Mr. Millard are said to have gone successively into the washroom of the dead-head to shave.

As Mr. Millard was washing his shaving brush while holding open

D.C.
The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Capital's Police Under Fire for Reign of Terror

By Paul Roberts

(Special to the Sunday Worker)

JUL 12 1941

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 19.—Smarting under public indictment for its laxity in solving crimes, including a series of murders, and inner-department squabbles—the Washington police department has just come through a two weeks Congressional investigation and is hoping to vindicate itself by resorting to strong-arm methods, particularly against Negroes and "radicals."

Washington's voteless citizens, used to investigations that never pan out, realize more acutely than ever since this latest investigation that until they can elect their own officials, nothing important will be done to correct existing evils.

Red-baiting ran all through the Congressional probe and when the police were not pleading for a return to the terroristic strong-arm days, they were telling the committee of the petty jealousies in the Detective Bureau; of the Police Department's "Gestapo" which spied on policemen and tapped their wires; of the "illiterate" superiors; of the system of selling tickets for police benefits, described as "rather thinly veiled public extortion"; of lack of intelligent supervision, of inefficiency.

The committee, headed by Representative Shulte (D) of Indiana, for reasons of its own, perhaps, neglected to follow through on some of the more important testimony which at times unexpectedly popped into the lime-light.

During questioning of Capt. George Little, veteran former head of the police department's secret gambling squad, Melvin C. Hazen, longer taps the police department's telephones, they have who died a few days after the other duties, chief of which is investigating of "subversive" activities.

JUL 20 1941

Several years ago he had indirectly been offered a \$10,000 bribe to remove Little as head of the squad. Hazen admitted that he

had never revealed the offer of the bribe before. He said that he was unable to trace the bribe to its source.

Running like a frayed thread throughout the entire investigation was the answer to "what's wrong with Washington?" — the people simply have no voice in the selection of their officials or in the running of their government. And votes for Washington citizens are as far off as ever.

Congress' idea of the solution to Washington crime record is to put the FBI into Washington citizens' laps. Senator Clyde Herring (D) of Iowa, has a plan to direct the FBI to aid the police department in the solution of "heinous" crimes in Washington—introducing J. Edgar Hoover's methods into the daily lives of the Capital's citizens.

"What the department needs," said Shulte, "is men with muscles."

The police department already has men with muscles and its **JUL 20 1941** FBI Testimony during the investigation centered on the department's so-called "Gestapo," headed by Acting-Captain Earl P. Hartman.

This squad is made up of about 30 members. The identity of these men is for the most part kept secret. Although the squad no longer taps the police department's telephones, they have who died a few days after the other duties, chief of which is investigating of "subversive" activities.

What the squad calls its "Red File" contains probably more names than any other police department in the country with the

exception, possibly, of New York.

For the most part, Washington's citizens, mildly interested in the police department investigation as carried by the press, know that not much will be done about the department that is constructive—men will be shuffled around, more Negroes will be centered for attack and the citizens still won't have a voice in their government.

Washington, D. C. Post

July 31, 1941

Swift Justice

Our law-enforcement system has struck back with a severe blow at the criminal element which has been running riot here in recent months. Only five weeks after Mrs. Vada K. Abarca was robbed and raped in a Washington laundry agency a Negro youth has been convicted of the crime. And the jury was so deeply aroused by the character of the offense and the prevalence of lawlessness in Washington that it prescribed the death penalty. That swift and terrible retribution will make many a criminal think twice before continuing his depredations in the District.

Electrocution is a horrible punishment to inflict upon any human being, but resort to it is justified in dealing with criminals of the worst type. Even more significant than the nature of the penalty prescribed in this case is the fact that the police, prosecutors and courts have cooperated to bring a felon to justice in the shortest possible time. That is a factor of the greatest importance in fighting criminals who are willing to take a chance on "beating the rap." In arguing this case District Attorney Curran asked for a verdict "that will make the streets of Washington safe for women." But no one verdict is likely to have that effect. Many felons will probably wait to see whether this exceptional performance is to become routine practice before shaking the dust of Washington from their feet. The District Attorney's office, the court and the police are to be congratulated on the handling of this case, but none should forget that it is day-to-day performance which counts most heavily in law enforcement.

Washington Post
Washington, D. C.

A James Smith Goes on Trial In Slaying; It's a Slight Error

SEP 23 1941

Up from the jail yesterday deputy marshals brought a 190-pound, 6-foot Negro named James A. Smith, 29. He was puzzled by it all but he didn't say anything.

It's bad business arguing with the deputies, and besides, a holiday is a holiday, even if you don't go anywhere but the District Court.

At Judiciary Square, Smith was led through the cell blocks, to the courtroom of Justice Jesse C. Adkins and on to a seat at the defendant's table.

Last May 25, he appeared, somebody slugged William Greenlea, 39, Negro, to death by tapping him on the head with a wine bottle. Smith heard these facts with a certain amount of interest, which quickened into fascination as it came to him that it was he, Smith, who was on trial for manslaughter.

"Listen, Cap'n," he protested then, to the marshal who was guarding him. "There's some mistake about me. I never killed nobody with no wine bottle. I don't know nothing about this here case . . ."

"Well, tell your lawyer about it," said the guard.

So the man at the table with the papers was his lawyer! Smith repeated his denial. Attorney James K. Hughes nodded.

"Yes, I have that in my notes. That's what you told me at the jail, right after Justice O'Donoghue assigned me to defend you. That is the defense we shall offer."

Smith sighed and tried the marshal again. "All right, boy, keep quiet, and let this trial go ahead," he was told.

Twelve jurors took their seats.

Smith tried once more, this time addressing Assistant United States Attorney Cecil Heflin, the prosecutor.

Heflin sent for Detective Sergt. John Wise, who was waiting to testify.

Wise shook his head. "No, sir. That's not him, unless he has put on about 60 pounds and grown 6 inches."

So James A. Smith, 29, was taken back to jail to finish his 90-day term for assault, imposed September 4. And James A. Smith, 35, was brought up to answer the manslaughter charges.

The trial was only about an hour and a half late in starting and probably will finish today.

Petitions were circulated through the crowd for signatures. Six demands were listed thereon. One was that the policeman who

recently killed two colored brothers be suspended and held for grand jury investigation; second, that the police deal with the problem of police brutality; third, that a citizen's trial board replace the present police trial board; fourth, that 50 Negro police be appointed; fifth, that the police shall place charges immediately against persons arrested or detained, and sixth, that compensation granted dependents of those killed by police.

The new acting police commissioner, Major Kelly, watched the demonstration from various points along the line.

Washington Post
Washington, D. C.

PROTEST MEET, PARADE HIT D. C. POLICE

WASHINGTON, Sept. 25—(ANP)—Police brutality got a thorough going over last week at a protest meeting held at Washington's Union square. Some 500 persons listened as Doxey A. Wilkerson of Howard university related the trials and tribulations of citizens under the inefficient direction of the local department.

Placards used in a march from the Second precinct at 5th and L streets up to the 13th precinct at 9th and Florida avenue decried Jim-Crow and demanded a colored captain for the 13th precinct, which is in a district almost wholly Negro.

A hearse and undertaker's automobile carried signs in memory of persons shot in recent months by police.

A banner was carried by a group for the United Cafeteria Employees of the CIO and a number of signs were carried bearing the names of local branches of the Workers party, which distributed its national publication, "Labor Action", through the crowd.

Other speakers included the Rev. Frank W. Alstork, president of the Ministers' Alliance of Washington and pastor of the Union Wesley A. M. E. church.

Henry Thomas of the C. I. O. Construction workers; Vincent Craig, Dorothy Strange, secretary of the sponsoring committee; Frank Donner, chairman of the case committee of the brutality committee; Dr. William A. Hunton, vice president of the National Negro congress and a teacher at Howard university, were on the program.

The trial was only about an hour and a half late in starting and probably will finish today.

of instruction at Fort Belvoir, was one of the weekend victims.

Mrs. Espinel, who is visiting here at Henderson Castle rooming house, 2200 Sixteenth Street Northwest, reported the theft of \$530 worth of jewels taken from a jewel box in her room. The lot included several family heirlooms, according to her son. Included were a diamond ring, a brooch, wristwatch, earrings and 12 loose emerald stones. Police suspect a Negro who came to work at the rooming house at 9 a. m. Saturday, left the same day at 11 a. m. and has not been seen since.

Mrs. Mary Miles, of 1314 Fifteenth Street, reported that her pocketbook containing \$5 was snatched as she walked in the 1400 block of P Street Northwest about noon yesterday. The culprit she described as a 12-year-old Negro.

Antoine Rupp, 70, of 1003 L Street Northwest, told police he was hit on the face by two Negro men about 5 a. m. yesterday while in the 1600 block of Eleventh Street Northwest and robbed of \$1.60.

Harrison Dall Thompson, Negro, 42, of 1336 R Street Northwest, a waiter at the Chevy Chase Country Club, was attacked early yesterday in the 700 block of North Capitol Street by two Negroes, one of whom was later arrested and is now being held for investigation at No. 1 Precinct. Five dollars were taken from Thompson.

Miss Selma Braverman, of 1749 Lanier Place Northwest, reported to police that her pocketbook was snatched while she was walking along the 600 block of Seventh Street Southwest.

She told police that her purse contained \$65 in cash and \$3 in defense stamps and was stolen by a young Negro boy.

Last weekend police had about 20 robberies, including six strongarms on Washington streets. The week prior to that there were also about 20 robberies, including at least eight attacks on citizens walking the streets.

Meantime, police reported a sharp decline in street holdups and housebreakings over the weekend. There were four street incidents and one grand larceny.

Under arrest for investigation in two of the street jobs is a 46-year-old Negro. He was picked up following an attack and robbery of a waiter at the Chevy Chase Country Club.

Mrs. ~~NOV 1 0 1941~~ Espinel, mother of Lieut. George Espinel of the Columbian army, who is taking a course

15-1941

Washington Post
Washington, D. C.

Mysterious Attacker Brutally Bludgeons District Housewife

Case Is Similar To the Unsolved Abramowitz Slaying

Bludgeoned over the head by a colored man who told her he came to repair a gas heater, Mrs. Ruth A. Street, 38, of 1629 E Street Northeast, was in critical condition at Casualty Hospital last night. **MAR 27 1941**

She was found semiconscious in her second-floor duplex apartment by a laundry man a few minutes after a telephone operator had called police, reporting that she heard groans coming through a receiver at the Street home. **20**

Similarity between this crime and the strangulation of Mrs. Ruth Simons Abramowitz, March 8, led Acting Chief of Detectives Ira E. Keck to dispatch Detective Sergeant Jeremiah Flaherty, ace homicide squad investigator, to the scene. Flaherty is also assigned to the murder case.

According to David Zeits, route man for the Greystone Hand Laundry, he went to the Street apartment a few minutes after 12:30 p. m. and Mrs. Street opened the door for him. Her head was bound with a blood-stained towel, he told police, and she collapsed in a faint. **21**

He called police and an ambulance. **MAR 27 1941**

Before Mrs. Street was taken from the apartment, her husband, Maurice Street, a Capital Transit Co. bus operator, arrived.

He said he worked out of the Buchanan Street station and had gotten a message to call his wife. The message was timed at 11:20, he said.

When he called home at about 12:30 p. m., he told police, his wife told him to come home immediately that she was hurt. Street said he attempted to find out from her what was the matter, but all she would say was: "I'm bleeding from the mouth and nose." **MAR 27 1941**

Detectives questioned Street and learned the couple lived with rs.

No weapon was found. Residents of the building said they saw no strangers enter or leave although Mrs. Harry Butcher, who lives on the first floor, said she heard Mrs. Street fall about 11 a. m. and added that she heard the woman moan.

Later, Mrs. Butcher continued, she heard Mrs. Street make a telephone call.

She added that she heard someone run down the steps but also thought this not unusual and did not telephone the police. **22**

Street's 17-year-old son by a former marriage, John LaQuay, 17, a messenger with Western Union.

The youth left the apartment for work about 6 a. m., and Street left about five minutes later, the latter asserted. **MAR 27 1941**

Apparently Dazed

Police found blood in every room of the two-room, dinette, kitchen and bath apartment. The woman, they said, apparently had walked around in a daze after being struck. The bathroom floor was splattered as was the wash stand. A towel soaked in blood was in the wash bowl and one was lying on the floor of the dinette.

Spots of blood were noticeable on a couch in the living room. Spots also led along a corridor into the bedroom.

The apartment did not appear to have been ransacked and Street said furniture and other household effects were in order.

Robbery was not the motive of the mysterious attacker, detectives disclosed. A glass bank partly filled with coins was on a bureau in the bedroom and Mrs. Street's pocket-book was found undisturbed.

Suffering From Shock

Physicians at Casualty Hospital, who gave the woman first aid, said she was dressed in a flowered house dress which also was covered with blood.

They treated her for a severe head injury and she was later examined by her own doctor, Dr. Henry B. Gwynn. He said she had lost a large quantity of blood and had suffered serious head laceration and shock, apparently inflicted by a blow from a blunt object.

Mrs. Street was given a blood transfusion and will be X-rayed today to determine whether she suffered a skull fracture. Doctors said her condition was too grave to examine her for evidence of criminal assault.

She regained consciousness late yesterday long enough to tell her physician that a colored man had come to her apartment, saying he wanted to repair the gas furnace in the kitchen. When he entered, she said, he struck her over the head and she lost consciousness.

She said her assailant was about middle-aged and was wearing dark clothing. **MAR 27 1941**

Like Mrs. Abramowitz, Mrs. Street was alone in her apartment when the man entered. There was a night chain on the door which apparently was unfastened, investigators said.

D. C.

Washington Post
Washington, D. C.

Attacks Reenacted

Boy, 17, Confesses He Beat Sleeping Man and Woman

APR 12 1941
pay received by workers it had placed in 17 different categories.

The Washington branch organized in 1938 is one of 44 branches of the National Urban League, and because of the splendid record it achieved in the two years of its existence under the guidance of George W. Goodman, the local branch was admitted to the Washington Community chest at a meeting of that group on May 27 of this year to become associated with the chest beginning in 1942.

The boy, Andrew Elkin Henderson, who will be 18 Monday, admitted he bludgeoned Mrs. Evelyn Kneeland, 32, of 2311 Fifteenth Street Northwest, and John S. Long, 30, c 1321 Belmont Street, with rocks while they slept. He said in his statement he was bent on robbing their homes.

He also admitted three robberies in Falls Church, Va., police said.

Andrew was arrested by two park policemen, Privates C. A. Mellott and J. T. Wirth, whose suspicions were aroused by the boy's actions in Meridian Park last Wednesday.

After his arrest they learned of his escape from the training school, April 2, and returned him to that institution. **APR 12 1941**

The boy said he broke out of the school about 5 a. m., April 2, and hid in the marshes along the Anacostia River all day.

When night fell the youth said he walked uptown and shortly after midnight crawled into the Long apartment. He struck Long over the head with a cobblestone and **Negro Labor News**

Houston, Texas

Negroes Compose 70 Percent Prison Population In D. C.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(AP)—According to the annual report of the Washington Urban League, Negroes average 65 percent of the public relief rolls; 70 percent of the prison population and 77 percent of the patients in the public hospitals.

In submitting this report, the league indicated it has added during the past 12 months, something like \$160,000 to the community income in



MRS. RUTH STREET

Washington Post
Washington, D. C.

Intruder Attacks

Draft Board Clerk

A 26-year-old colored man will be arraigned in Police Court this morning charged with disorderly conduct and assault on H. R. Faber, clerk at Draft Board No. 25 at 1250 Seventh Street Northwest.

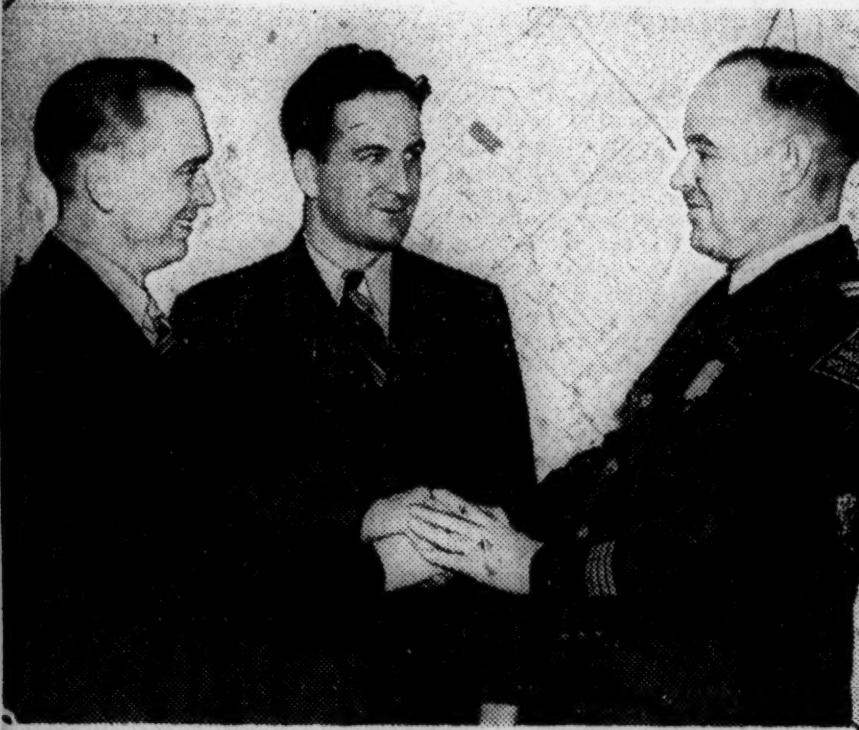
The suspect, Frank Allison, of 1411 Eleventh Street Northwest, according to Police Captain A. J. Kasko, attempted to enter the board room after it was closed and struck Faber with his fists when the latter tried to eject him. **APR 13 1941**

Alone in Apartment **APR 27 1941**

Like Mrs. Abramowitz, Mrs. Street was alone in her apartment when the man entered. There was a night chain on the door which apparently was unfastened, investigators said.

Washington Post
Washington, D. C.

Boy, 17, Confesses He Beat Sleeping Man and Woman



Post Staff Photo
PARK POLICE WHO CAPTURED ATTACKER—Left to right—Privates Charles A. Mellott and Joseph T. Wirth receive congratulations from Park Police Capt. Henry Helm

CAPTURE, from Page 1.

fled when his victim roused up and lunged toward him.

He said he walked around for a short time and then entered Mrs. Kneeland's apartment. He confessed he also beat her over the head with a stone and took her pocketbook containing about \$30.

He then went to Falls Church, Va., he said. The same night, he stated, he entered a home in Falls Church, stole \$34 and escaped. No report has ever been made to police of this robbery, however.

APR 12 1941
Bought New Clothing

After spending the night in Virginia, the boy declared, he returned to Washington, bought some new clothing and took a room on Vermont Avenue Northwest. He kept the room until last Tuesday when his money ran out and he began "living out."

Authorities at the National Training School granted local police permission yesterday to bring the boy to police headquarters to make a statement and to visit the scenes of the attacks.

Long said that when the boy was brought to his home yesterday by detectives, he pointed out the window through which he said he entered, and explained that he struck when he heard Long cough.

"He was entirely cool, calm and collected," Long said of the boy's

Washington Post
Washington, D. C.

Girl Leaps From Window

Policeman Lies Near Death After Alexandria Gunfight

MAY 11 1941

Armed Man Insists On Searching House For His Sweetheart

A veteran policeman lay near death last night and his partner and a colored gunman were in serious condition after a quick squall of gunfire in an Alexandria, Va., home.

Private Benjamin F. Swann, 42, of Alexandria police, was in Alexandria Hospital, where his condition was termed critical, although he rallied after a blood transfusion. He was suffering from gun wounds in the head and abdomen.

His partner, Private Russell Greenwalt, 26, was at the hospital with wounds in the abdomen and shoulder.

Eddie Cuffey, colored, 23, of 935 North Alfred Street, Alexandria, was under police guard at the same hospital, also with abdominal and shoulder wounds.

The gun battle resulted when Swann and Greenwalt, answering a "trouble" call at a house in the 1100 block of Princess Street, were greeted by a blast from a gun allegedly held by Cuffey. The policeman had been called to the house by Lucille McCorkle, 24, a roomer, who said she leaped from a second-floor window when Cuffey turned

Showed No Concern

Mrs. Kneeland said she could not identify Andrew positively but that "he seemed to know an awful lot" about the attack on her. She said he showed no concern that she had been injured but "appeared shocked and sorry" when told \$25 had been overlooked by the burglar.

He was returned to the institution last night.

Capt. Ira E. Keck, assistant chief of detectives, said he intended to roomer, after threatening her.

Greenwalt said he and Swann found front and rear doors of the house locked when they reached it and received permission to break the front door down. They entered, he said, and started up the stairs when they heard the sound of someone moving on the second floor.

With Swann, veteran of ten years on the Alexandria force, in advance, they walked into a marriage of lead. Swann went down and the bannister, and up the steps, Greenwalt leaped round him, over firing as he went.

MAY 11 1941
"I heard Benjie (Swann) shout, 'Drop that gun!' he said. Bullets

started flying. I saw a spurt of flame and a man behind it and started shooting at it as a slug hit me in the shoulder.

"The man with the gun fell. I thought he was dead and went out and called an ambulance over our two-way radio."



BENJAMIN F. SWANN.
Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Isn't This Something!

It's Necessary to Introduce a Civil Rights Measure in the Capital of the Nation!

WASHINGTON, May 15—Senator William H. Smathers (Democrat), of New Jersey, introduced in the Senate last Tuesday a civil rights bill for the District of Columbia.

Any person denied the enjoyment or use of any public accommodations or conveyance on account of race, color or creed could bring action in the Municipal Court for the recovery of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500. Every violation would also subject the offender to a fine of not less than \$10 nor more than \$100, or imprisonment for not less than 10 days nor more than 100 days, or

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Navy Yard Aide Beaten by Guard

NOV 8 1941

WASHINGTON.

As a prelude to the nationwide Navy Day observance, a marine guard on duty at the Washington Navy Yard allegedly clubbed a yard worker into unconsciousness, Friday, when the latter reached for a telephone to inform his foreman that he had been placed under arrest for entering the yard through the wrong gate.

The victim, David Strange, of 418 Twenty-first Street, Northeast, was treated at the Navy Yard clinic for lacerations and abrasions about the head.

Yard Has No Report

AFRO reporters who went to the yard on Monday in an effort to secure the official version of the incident were told that such information would have to be obtained from the captain of the yard, Capt. C. R. Robinson, who was attending the Navy Day activities than in progress.

It was suggested that Captain

Robinson be called on the following day. When this was done, number of times in the past. He yard officials informed the AFRO stated he was halted by the marine that no official report of the occurrence would be available.

Victim Relates Story
According to Strange, he had "I did so," Strange related, trouble with me before and that them declared that they had had out and enter by the pedestrian gate. As soon as I got in, one of them declared that they had had trouble with me before and that they were going to place me under arrest."

15-1941

FLORDIA TEACHER BEATEN
BY COPS

St. Petersburg, Fla.,
March 20 (APN)-

Miss Alzeta Hargray, local school teacher was brutally beaten by an enraged patrolman Sunday afternoon when she objected to his method of arresting an alleged traffic law violator.

According to witnesses, the young woman accompanied by her sister-in-law came upon a group of white persons standing around watching Patrolman Verne Goodbread beating Andrew Jamison into insensibility. Her remarkL "Isn't there some other way to arrest that man without beating him in that way?" caused Goodbread to turn to her knocking her down in the street and kicking her.

Miss Hargray's brother, Mose, came up and demanded that the officer stop beating his sister. Witnesses say the brother had a knife in his hand. Miss Annie Mae Roundtree, who had been observing the scene from her car, approached the group and was arrested along with Miss Hargray, her brother, and her sister in-law.

Jamison, badly bruised and swollen as a result of the beating given him by the officer, was fined \$115 for reckless driving and assaulting an officer. The others were held under \$200 bond, and at the hearing Tuesday were fined \$50 each.

SOURCE: Pittsburgh Courier
Pgh., Pa.

FLORIDA

3/22/41

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Soldiers Who Resent "N----" Shot by M.P.'s

TAMPA, Fla. (APN) — Because one soldier objected to being called "n----r" by a white military policeman, two other soldiers who sought to help him were shot here on Tuesday night at the corner of Scott and Central Streets and placed under arrest.

An English subject on shore leave from his boat docked here, who shouted, "Don't fight among yourselves, fight the Germans and Italians," was arrested at the same time, but later released.

According to eye-witnesses, the soldier was sitting at a bar when the M.P. entered and ordered: "N----, get up from there."

Two Soldiers Arrested

The soldier's expression of resentment resulted in his being placed under arrest. Another soldier who asked the M.P. not to strike the arrested man was also arrested.

Several other soldiers came up in the crowd that gathered and on hearing what had happened, one of them approached and questioned the M.P. about the use of the offensive epithet. An argument developed at the climax of which one soldier is alleged to have drawn a knife, resulting in a tussle during which two soldiers were shot by the M.P.s.

The army policemen reportedly held the crowd at bay with their guns as they removed their prisoners. Names of the principals could not be learned.

Chicago Defender

Chicago, Illinois

TWO SOLDIERS PROTEST MP'S 'NIGGER'; SHOT

DeLand, Fla., Sun News
July 22, 1941

LENIENCY OFTEN GOES TOO FAR

Two Negroes were apprehended Saturday night while allegedly engaged in removing money from the cash register of a DeLand business concern. At least one of them was removing the cash while his accomplice waited outside in an automobile.

Whether or not these Negroes are guilty we do not profess to know. That remains for a jury duly impaneled to determine. If, after careful consideration of the evidence, that jury finds them guilty the court should give them the limit.

A person engaged in such pursuits may not be particularly dangerous unless cornered, but on 99 occasions out of 100 will resort to violence if it is necessary to escape.

We know of one section of town where residents could not sleep for weeks because a prowler was active at night. It is a fact that the women folk did not want the men to come to town at night to attend to business affairs for fear that the marauder would put in an appearance while they were gone. Even with the men at home the women seldom enjoyed a good night of rest, free of fear.

Too often, when some criminal is apprehended and convicted, he or his attorney puts up a "Poor mouth" and the court is constrained to grant leniency.

A person, be he white or black, who is engaged in entering homes during the dead of night, is a potential murderer, and should be treated as such. If cornered by the master of the house he'll fight his way to freedom and will not hesitate to kill if necessary.

One who is apprehended in such nefarious pursuits should be accorded no leniency. He would show no mercy to a defenseless woman caught in her home without protection or to the man of the house if cornered during the process of breaking and entering. He should be shown no consideration when brought into court, convicted and sentenced.

The names of the principals in this melee could not be learned.

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

Miami, Fla. Herald
August 15, 1941

OBJECT TO EPITHET, TWO SOLDIERS SHOT

TAMPA, Fla., July 14.—When a soldier objected to being called an epithet offensive to his race by a white M. P. (military policeman), two Negro selectees were shot and placed under arrest here Tuesday. The soldier attracted a crowd, among which was an English subject who called: "Don't fight among yourselves, fight the Germans and Italians." *(R)*

For this remark he was promptly arrested but later released.

The trouble arose when the M. P. entered a bar and addressed the soldier, ordering: "Nigger, get up from there." He objected and was placed under arrest. Another soldier asked the military policeman not to strike the first soldier and was likewise arrested.

Shot When He Objects

A crowd gathered, among which were other uniformed men. Apprised of what had happened, one approached the M. P., questioning him about the "nigger" statement. Two policemen were standing looking on. An argument developed between this uniformed man and the M. P. during which the soldier drew a knife. The M. P. drew his gun and another M. P. came up. In the resultant tussle the soldier was shot.

Another soldier took it up, seizing the second M. P. around the throat. He also was shot. The M. P.'s held the crowd at bay with their guns as they removed their prisoners. The names of the principals in this affray could not be learned.

REVERSE KLUX KLAN

Police Uncover Hooded Gang



SERGEANT R. E. DANN

... inspects "black terror"

Negro Youth Sentenced As Alleged Member of Vicious Racket

Operation by a group of negro youths of a sort of Ku Klux Klan in reverse was revealed Thursday when one of the band, Thomas Smith, 17-year-old negro, was sentenced to 60 days in jail and the black regalia of the order was confiscated.

Smith, arrested with a younger boy turned over to juvenile authorities, was described by the ar-

resting officer, Alfred Bolster, as a member of the black-hooded band believed responsible for "six or seven criminal assaults and robberies" among negroes in the vicinity of the Dorsey baseball park.

Samples of the robes brought into court were homemade affairs of black material, with a hood designed to inspire terror and hide the identity of the wearer. Two homemade whips of knotted rope also were seized. Smith lives at 1944 N. W. Third court.

"I'll stop this racket," said Judge Jack R. Kirchik as he handed out the 60-day sentence.

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

Negro Admits Attempting To Blast Trestle

MIAMI, FLA., Dec. 11.—(AP)—A 38-year-old negro confessed today, the F. B. I. announced, that he set a charge of dynamite on a Florida East Coast railway trestle, then reported it to police in the hope he would become a hero and receive a reward.

R. G. Danner, head of the F. B. I. Miami office, took Stokes McCreary before U. S. Commissioner Roger Edward Davis, where he was charged with violating the Federal anti-sabotage statute, pleaded guilty and was bound over under \$5,000 bond.

Two sticks of dynamite, wired to the rails and attached by a long wire to a dry-cell battery hidden nearby were discovered about midnight on McCreary's tip.

DEC 12 1941

Police said apparently one passenger train had passed over the spot but that the wire was too long to bring current to the caps on the dynamite, thus preventing an explosion.

McCreary at first asserted he had seen two white men placing the charge. Later, Danner said, he told questioners he had been paid \$200 by a white man to do the job. The man was absolved on connection with the case.

Finally, Danner said, McCreary admitted he placed the charge because a friend of his in Georgia once found a broken rail, flagged a train and was given \$500 reward and a job for life by the railroad company.

15-1941

Deland Fla. Sun News
January 31, 1941

Guilty Pleas From Pair Are Accepted

Circuit Judge H. B. Frederick received pleas of guilty from a pair of Negroes in Court here today, during trials of two appeal de novo cases from justice of the peace courts. He suspended sentence upon one Negro, J. D. Lewis, charged with petty larceny, and fined the other, George Cooper, intoxication, costs totalling \$43.40, in lien of which he must serve 60 days. R. L. McKenney was the defense attorney.

Sanford Fla. Herald
January 28, 1941

Sixty Charges Listed At City Court Session

Sixty charges, most of them against negroes and many for gambling, were listed on the docket at the regular session of the Municipal Court yesterday afternoon at the Police Station, with Judge Frank L. Miller presiding.

Charges against white persons included one against Allen Hunt for speeding. Mr. Hunt estreated a \$10 bond. Paul Shelton, charged with running a red light, estreated a \$5 bond. H. B. Odham, charged with speeding and running a red light, had his case continued. Frank G. Asquith, accused of drunkenness, was dismissed. E. H. Bauman, accused of being a vagabond, was dismissed. J. R. Robinson, accused of reckless driving, had his case continued.

Sandy Angelo, accused of drunkenness, was found guilty and fined \$5 or 15 days. M. Moffitt, charged with drunkenness was judged guilty and fined \$5 or 15 days. Frank Janskowe, accused of reckless driving, had his case continued. Another charge against Mr. Janskowe of running a stop sign was also continued.

Charges against negroes included one against Johnny Frank Bellom for disorderly conduct, which was dismissed. Wilford Wiggins, accused of destroying private property, was transferred

FLORIDA

Tampa, Fla. Tribune
March 22, 1941

Death Warrants

to the County. Virnese Cave, accused of assault, had his case continued. Essie Reed, charged with disorderly conduct, had her case continued. Thomas Dunn, charged with being drunk and disorderly, was judged guilty and fined \$25 or 90 days. Cecil O-

Griff, accused of gambling, es- with disorderly conduct, had her case continued. Andrew Anderson, charged with gambling, had his case continued. Andrew Anderson, charged with being drunk and disorderly, was judged guilty and fined \$25 or 90 days. Cecil O-

GOVERNOR HOLLAND has disposed of five of the hangover death cell cases, which have been passed along from Gov-

ernor to Governor. operating a gambling house, was convicted and fined \$20 or 60 days. James Footman, charged with reckless driving, was found guilty and fined \$20 or 60 days. Kenzie Surrency and Richard Smith, the first white, the others negroes. These men leaving the scene of an accident, have been under death sentence since as far back as 1936. They have been lingering operating a car for hire without chair, and their cases have gone through the processes of appellate courts and pardon

The following were all accused of gambling and all estreated guilty and fined \$5 or 15 days. Addie Williams, 15 days. Willie McNeill, charged Elbert Davis, Josephine Black, with disorderly conduct, estreat- burn, Dan Sinclair and Rachael Williams. accused of disorderly conduct to perform the final official duty.

Sam Smith, accused of careless was convicted and fined \$5 or

Governor Holland has ordered the exe-

and negligent driving, had his 15 day case continued. James Eddy, Steve Williams, accused of dis-

cution of the five during the week of

charged with gambling, had his orderly conduct, was found guilty and fined \$15 or 45 days. Charlie Williams, charged with gambling, estreated a Frank Blair, charged with selling

April 14—but still that's not the end of

accused of gambling, estreated a \$5 bond. Leroy Nesbit, charged liquor, was found guilty and

the cases. The Governor gives the con-

with gambling, estreated a \$5 fined \$50 or 90 days. Lessie other appeal to the Pardon Board, at a

bond. John Johnson, charged Martin, accused of selling liquor, public hearing April 2. There they may

with drunkenness, was found was convicted and fined \$75 or guilty and fined \$10 or 30 days. 90 days. Essie Red, charged with

make another plea for clemency. Since

Jesse Burt Farrell, charged with possession and sale of liquor, had

the Governor's assent is requisite to clem-

drunkenness, was judged guilty her case continued. Henry Har-

and fined \$5 or 15 days. Eddievey, charged with disorderly con-

Timms, accused of drunkenness, duct, was found guilty and fined

it by signing the death warrants, there

was judged guilty and fined \$10 \$5 or 15 days.

doesn't appear much chance that the sen-

or 30 days. Ed Ross, charged with drunkenness, was found guilty and fined \$5 or 15 days.

tences will be set aside.

Nathaniel Robinson, charged with being drunk and disorderly, was convicted and fined \$5 or

Five of the hangover death sentences

15 days. Essie Mae Robinson, charged with being disorderly, was found guilty and fined \$5 or 15 days. James Henderson, ac-

remain for action by Governor Holland.

cused of the possession of liquor, was found guilty and fined \$50 or 90 days. Carzell Redding, up

One of them dates back to 1926—the no-

on a charge of possession and

torious Buchanan case, which has been foot-

sale of liquor, was found guilty

baled from Governor to Governor, Doyle

and fined \$5 or 15 days. Eddievey, charged with disorderly con-

Carlton signing the death warrants, Sholtz

was judged guilty and fined

passing it on to Cone and Cone to Holland.

Anyway, there seems to be a fair pros-

pect of action, at long last.

A charge of gambling against

James Eddy was continued. Wil-

lie Fultz, charged with gambling, estreated a \$5 bond. Will Thomas and James Scott, both

charged with gambling, also es-

treated \$5 bonds. Nun Henderson, accused of gambling, was

convicted and fined \$15. Winnie

Henderson, accused of selling li-

quor, had his case continued. James Thomas, charged with

gambling, had his case continued.

Henry Teat, accused of gambling,

estreated a \$5 bond. Berry Steb-

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

FASCISM ... AMERICAN STYLE ... 1941

EMPLOYMENT BUREAU?

APR 5 - 1941

Here's Cheap Way For City To Get Labor

APR 5 - 1941

They need about 10 negroes for City

Jail Prison Gang.

APR 5 - 1941

FE Nelson
Inspector F.E. Nelson
Uniform Radio Division

The above is a reproduction of an order issued by Police Inspector F. E. Nelson to two policemen on the Miami (Fla.) force, recently. It was not allowed to be introduced in an investigation into police brutality, terrorism and bribery conducted last week by the city attorney's office. The probe followed an expose by the Miami Herald, a daily newspaper, which published the above order and demanded an investigation into the inhuman practice of rounding up gangs of innocent Negroes whenever the city had a job to do and did not want to hire workmen.

Lakeland, Fla., Ledger & Star Tele

April 16, 1941

GOATS OF RACKETEERING?

Worth investigating is the arrest of 46 negroes in a Tampa jook joint Saturday night.

Circuit Judge Parks freed the prisoners and severely criticised officers who made the arrests.

"These negroes weren't arrested because they were vagrants," Judge Parks said. "The evidence shows most of them had jobs. There was some other motive for the arrests. I think these people were the goats of some racketeering."

Were the negroes victims of a fight for jook organ business, as Judge Parks has intimated? He will request the grand jury to find the answer to that question.

Deputies said the joint had a bad reputation, that a lot of fighting took place there. If the joint is a nuisance, why not close it?

Judge Parks said such wholesale arrests of negroes had been going on for several years in Tampa.

Evidence was published recently in Miami which tended to imply that certain officers there go out and arrest negroes in wholesale fashion whenever more laborers are needed.

Such situations do not enhance the attractiveness of a democracy. Moreover, they stir resentment among negroes and make them easier converts to communism.

Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla.

Editor Sent To Prison Farm For Protesting Judge's Use Of 'Nigger' In Courts

Arrested, Jailed, Fined and Sent to Prison In Half
MAY 24 1941 An Hour

Jailed Without Warrant

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (ANP)—A local newspaper editor was railroaded to the "Blue Jay" city prison farm here Tuesday on trumped up charges of operating a newspaper without a city license and contempt of court.

Arrested, jailed, tried in municipal court before Judge I. Muncy Anderson, fined \$100 cash pay the \$100, Washington was and sent to the city prison farm hurried to the "Blue Jay," where all within a period of a half hour he donned the prison garb, consisting of ragged pair of blue overalls, an overall jumper with many rags hanging from it, and shoes several sizes too small for publication and member of the prisoner.

Scott Newspaper syndicate of Atlanta, one of the most militant, progressive and outspoken papers in this city, was arrested at 10 o'clock in the morning, without a warrant, embarrassed and humiliated because he dared to write the

Two weeks ago the Florida Press published an editorial urging little respect for the colored citizens in it that the prevalent use of "nigger" by police officers, white witnesses and others in this action follows:

municipal court be discontinued. "Let's Discard Nigger, Judge." The story stated that the court "Ther are certain courtesies and had no dignity and urged the and respects due even to dogs and judge elect, Charles Miller, who cats. Most of you will agree with defeated Judge Anderson, in this Since you do, you will further recent April primary election, to agree that there are many not discontinue the procedure when given that are due human beings. he takes over the bench on June 21. "Colored people are human beings if our physiology is correct.

Judge Anderson and the municipal license inspector, J. Ray Per-Mentor, were furnished copies of why shouldn't they be treated like the Press in which the editorial human beings in our local municipality appeared and immediately Washington was sought to appear in "There are certain things

court. He was finally reached by judges of courts may do. He sets telephone and ordered to court on a program by which his court Saturday of last week. He refused runs. There are certain express-Tuesday morning two police officers were sent for Washington.nesses he asks officers and witnesses to refrain from using. His He was taken to jail in the requests are granted usually."

"Black Maria," the patrol wagon "Often we have heard the and appeared before Judge Anderson 'Nigger' used in courts of son and Mr. Permenor with his our city, mainly municipal court, counsel who was hurriedly summoned to court. Court for the members of our race. Judges in these day had adjourned but the judge courts have permitted the practice held a special session for the until the word is now a by word sentencing of this young journal-ist.

"Like a Boy Scout—the first While counsel was arranging to act of our new young forward

moving and progressive judge, the Hon. Charles Miller, should be discarding forever and ever the use of 'Nigger' in his

15-1941

NEW YORK ~~ONE~~

New York, N. Y.

JOB IN STATE CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS

WE ARE INDEBTED to the Welfare

Equity Association of 205 West 135th street, which is campaigning for job opportunities for Negroes for the following information:

Statistics show that for the year 1939 there was a state prison population of 10,500 in New York. About 25 percent were colored. The six state prisons—Attica, Auburn, Clinton, Sing Sing and Wallkill—require a staff of 1,396 guards. Of this number only 3 were colored. The population of the female prisons, reformatories, penitentiaries and New York City penal institutions was 1,632, with about 50 percent colored, and there was not one colored matron employed in any of these institutions.

The Parole Board consists of 3 members at salaries of \$12,000 each per year; an executive director at a salary of \$9,000; and a large staff of parole officers with salaries ranging from \$2,200 to \$4,000 per year. There are only four colored parole officers and they are assigned to New York City. MAR 1 51941

The State Commission of Corrections consists of a commissioner and seven deputy commissioners and a secretary, with salaries of \$12,000 and 10,000 a year. No Negroes are employed by the Commission. MAR 1 51941

The logical conclusion is that there is some discrimination against Negroes in these jobs. While many of these positions are under Civil Service there are also many appointive jobs in this group. The Governor and other state officials who have expressed concern about discrimination against Negro citizens in the Empire State by private corporations might set the example by putting an end to such discrimination in the various state departments of the government service.

GENERAL

So long as New York State officially ignores the Negro in allotment of jobs, so long will private industry be encouraged to do so.

PRISON TERMS FOR MINOR VIOLATIONS SCORED BY JURIST

Atlanta, Mar. 8. (AP)—Sending minor offenders to prison for lack of money to pay fines penalizes poverty and amounts "practically to imprisonment for debt," Dr. E. G. Mackay, of Atlanta, told the Georgia Interracial Committee, in discussing the plight of prisoners.

The committee, which met yesterday in annual session, heard reports on conditions in Georgia prisons and convict camps, hospitalization, graduate education for negroes and the negro's part in national defense.

Dr. Rufus E. Clement, president of Atlanta University, said six southern states, including Georgia, still make no provision for graduate and professional training of negro youth.

New Republic
New York, N. Y.

From The New Republic Mail Bag

The American Civil Liberties Union is asking Governor Leon C. Phillips to investigate charges that George Crooms, attorney for Ina Wood in the notorious criminal-syndicalism trial at Oklahoma City, was arrested when he stopped to talk to a Negro worker on a road, held for questioning without charges for twenty-four hours and his private records seized. The ACLU also calls upon Attorney General Robert H. Jackson to investigate the part the FBI is said to have played in the case.

Archibald B. Shepperson, editor, writes that The Virginia Quarterly Review is carrying an article, "Denken und Leben," by Thomas Mann, in German and without translation.

Walter White, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, sends us material which he believes casts considerable doubt on the guilt of Bob White, who was shot by W. S. Cochran in a courtroom in Conroe, Texas, where White was on trial for the third time, charged with the rape of Cochran's wife. "Negroes interested in defending this country and democracy," Mr. White writes, "but when a man can be shot and killed in a courtroom within full sight of armed guards and officers of the court, and the killer released on the low bail of \$500, we seriously question how much democracy there is to defend."

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Our Double Standard For Handling Crime

JUST for the record, and not because we think it will do any good, we call attention here to the contrast presented in the handling of two criminal cases in Norfolk courts within recent weeks.

Case 1. Three youths, white, ages 18, 22, 24. Charge: armed robbery. Identical offenses in Norfolk, Suffolk and Richmond. The accused entered pleas of guilty and were sentenced by the Norfolk court to eight years in the penitentiary. Similar sentences were imposed by Suffolk and Richmond courts, the sentences to run concurrently.

Case 2. Three youths, Negro, ages 17, 18, 20. Charge: armed robbery. The accused entered pleas of guilty and were sentenced to life imprisonment. Commonwealth attorneys asked for the death penalty.

It would be interesting to examine and break down for the benefit of research the psychological and sociological factors in the motivation of the judges and the State's attorneys who handled these cases. The same commonwealth attorneys who asked the extreme penalty for these colored boys (and they did not go beyond what the law allowed) witnessed a jury bring in a verdict of one year in prison for a man who had caused the death of his wife and unborn child. We imagine that the commonwealth attorney who prosecuted this case experienced a sense of disappointment that a jury should evaluate human life so lightly, even after the charge had been reduced to manslaughter. The lives of judges and juries and commonwealth attorneys must be terribly torn between conflicting and unreconcilable psychological and sociological factors which enter into the administration of criminal justice in a society that approves one standard of justice for white criminals and another for black criminals.

The Negro Crime Problem

The most serious aspect of the "negro question" is lynchings. Lynching has about played out in the South. The problem is crime among negroes, crimes to which only negroes are parties.

In the last three or four decades collisions between whites and negroes have come to be rare. The separation of the races in the South is much greater and wider than it was in the forty years after the negroes were emancipated. In South Carolina, for example, more than one third of the white people are now living in segregated factory villages, and these villagers, or their fathers, were poor white people most of whom came from farms where they were in competition with negro labor.

In every Southern town and city is voluntary racial segregation. Naturally the more prosperous negroes tend to separate themselves from the negro slummers, just as white people do from white slummers. Thus we have wretched little districts inhabited by negroes, and from them reports of stabbings and shootings of negroes by negroes, men and women, are printed nearly every day in newspapers. The better kind of negroes do not "carve up" one another.

The well-meaning, the benevolent outsiders are dreadfully concerned because not many of the negroes vote in the South. Do these people really believe that in the casting of the ballot is magic that transmutes an ignoramus or a ruffian into an enlightened and law-abiding citizen? (It has not that effect on whites).

They are worried because not many negroes serve on juries. Would they like to have separate courts for the trials of negro crimes, with negro judges, juries and lawyers? Why not? The court officers would probably enjoy them.

Do they imagine that negro courts would be more successful in extirpating negro crime than white courts are? Every man at all informed of the South knows that Southern judges and juries habitually take into consideration the nature of negroes and their conditions when they are before the court as culprits. Yes, there are exceptional cases when the conflict has been between whites and blacks, but, we repeat, that conflict has come to be rare, in South Carolina at any rate.

Nor is injustice likely to be done when the issue is between white and black. Our courts of sessions nowadays seldom have juries ruled by the passions inherited from "Reconstruction," and their juries seldom fail to mete out a substantial justice more likely to err on the side of mercy to negroes than to white men. Outsiders deny this. The white uplifters of Northern cities take the word of Walter White in preference to the word of a Southerner.

What should be done to prevent the crimes among the negro slummers and ruf-

fians, of which negroes are the victims, is more than we can tell. We do know that white Southerners will not go among them, live among them, associate with them. Even were they so disposed, they could not afford to do it; few of them are wealthy; they are not a leisure class; they are busy making a living.

When negroes were emancipated they were turned loose on the country. The white Southerners have had a white man's burden, bequeathed to them by armed champions of ignorant and poverty-stricken freedom, and they have carried it. Whatever advances the Southern negroes have made have been in the main due to their association as workers for white Southerners, and the irony of it is that what white Southerners have done for them has been in spite of the nagging and interference of the Northern "uplifters."

The News and Courier wishes that the wealthy friends in the North of the negro slummers would come into the Southern cities and towns and with their minds and hands do something for them. Let them not only be more generous with their money but of themselves, their personal sympathy and association.

Of course the segregation and separation of the races will continue. The present federal government, which courts and receives almost unanimous negro support at the polls, encourages and promotes negro segregation in its "housing projects"—which The News and Courier approves.

Why do not these Northern friends give more of themselves to helping the negroes? The Southerners have done and are doing far more than they suspect.

The North couldn't very well keep the white people of the South poor with protective tariffs and discriminating freight rates without keeping the negroes poor with them.

Washington, D. C. Post

July 6, 1941

Negroes And Crime

I am deeply concerned about the number of crimes being committed by negroes here in Washington.

Being a Negro myself and knowing what a handicap the Negro criminal is to the Negro race, I would like to see something done about the present situation.

I think it would be a good idea for the colored people of Washington to form some sort of an organization with the sole aim of fighting the Negro criminal.

When the potential Negro criminal learns that he cannot expect any sympathy from his own people, then perhaps he will think twice before committing a crime.

Perhaps many members of my race won't agree with me, but I have no bigger Thomas "complex." Crimes aren't justified, even in a land of prejudice and discrimina-

tion. RUDOLPH RAYFORD.

Washington, June 30.

P. S. I think more colored plain-clothes men on the police force would be a great help. R. R.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

CATOE'S CRIME BRINGS
UP QUESTION OF RACE
CRIMINALITY

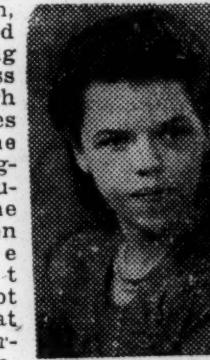
Pursuit Of Democracy

BY MARJORIE MCKENZIE

WASHINGTON prepares for the kill. The forces of law and justice will begin on October 15 their swift and inexorable grind for the conviction of Jarvis Catoe, Washington's one-man crime wave. His case is remarkable only in degree. Actually, it is part of a pattern of Negro versus white crime incidence which has threatened seriously the thin veneer of polite race relations in the Nation's Capitol.

Staid Negro residents of this community, with years of respect-

ed, decent living behind them, have observed with mounting and helpless alarm the high criminality rates for Negroes, the recurrent charges of police brutality and the growing tension between the races. What they have not realized is that the entire character of the Negro population of Washington



Miss McKenzie

has undergone radical change in the last two decades. Crime statistics are part of the tragic evidence of what that change has meant.

CRIME ABOUNDS

Washington is a bottle-neck of Negro migration from the South to the North. Having crossed the Mason-Dixon line at Alexandria, Virginia, Negro migrants suddenly appear to have exhausted their funds and their Wanderlust. From the cotton fields of South Carolina and the mill-towns of North Carolina to the banks of the Potomac—that is their one-way passage. What lures them here remains a mystery. There is no industry to absorb them; relief has never been adequate. The slums and the alley ghettos they inhabit are appalling. But they have remained by the tens of thousands and put their blight upon the community.

Washington is notorious for its rates of tuberculosis, venereal disease, juvenile delinquency and illegitimacy. Petty crime and prostitution are rampant. The city that should serve as a model for the country is forever trying to pull itself out of some disgraceful social problem. This year's wave of robbery and sex-crimes by Negro men against white women victims is but an isolated and dramatic example.

Foremost among the factors underlying the causes of crime in the Negro is his low economic status. The statement is axiomatic and trite to the point where its significance has been dulled.

EXPERIENCE PRODUCES TWO ATTITUDES

Superimposed on these basic causes of crime, is the accompanying fact that justice is administered by the white world. This means that the term "crime" itself is interpreted by those who wish to preserve the caste system. What constitutes a crime depends on local custom.

The situation, however, does give rise to a consideration of the en-

The Negro's life experience tends to produce two attitudes, either submission or aggression. Aggression may be constructively channeled into personal achievement, or it may develop feelings of hatred and revenge against the white world. Last year, a Negro in Pittsburgh murdered his landlord because the latter made one too many visits to request the rent. From his position as social and economic outcast, insecure and frustrated, the Negro visits on the white man and the white woman, the violence they so richly merit. The white world has nourished a viper in its bosom. The viper strikes back.

15-1941

GENERAL

Charlotte, N. C. Observer
October 7, 1941

Conditions Conducive to Negro Crime.

To The Observer:

It is for the benefit and information of those persons in and around Charlotte interested in the underlying causes which lead to an abnormally high degree of crime among Negroes I submit this article. I believe that every psychologist, sociologist, or any one else with common sense will agree with me that there are certain desperately low economic standards of life which lead to other conditions in which crimes almost always appear. It is out of this desperate economic condition that crimes among Negroes and poor whites of Charlotte has come. We shall recite here a few of these depravities among Negroes. The Negro has been consistently kept out of all the decent jobs in this city. There are no Negro postal clerks in our Post Office, neither is there a single letter carrier in Charlotte or surrounding districts. The civil service in Charlotte is definitely closed to Negroes. There is not a Negro in our City Hall holding a job the rank of which is as high as a clerk — nor is there any other position held by a Negro which can be an inspiration to the youth of the race and incline them to be hard working, thrifty, and sober. There are no parks in Charlotte for Negroes, nor community centers where Negro boys and girls may use their leisure time constructively and profitably — no gymnasiums — no swimming pools for Negroes.

The pressing economic conditions in which the Negro lives have broken up his home life. Hundreds of mothers must rise at an early hour in the mornings and leave their children and go to work in white people's kitchens until late in the evenings — Sundays, no exception, in many cases — for the mere pittance of \$3, \$4, or \$5 a week. The starvation wages which the father of the home is able to make will not meet the rent and food bills, to say nothing of clothes. Medical care and other dire necessities of life are out of the question. These children are left there to wander about the streets and listen to sordid, filthy stories by older people, and thus are taught all manner of crime, vulgarity, boisterousness and meanness. These children, on account of poverty, are poorly fed, poorly clothed, and mal nurtured, and hence very soon begin to steal. And I ask, what hungry child won't steal?

Persons who are interested in learning the causes of the continu-

ing high rate of crime among Negroes in Charlotte are asked to consider the many crimes which are being committed daily against the Negroes of Charlotte, by those who pay their wages, by those who discriminate against them, by those who keep them down, and by those who are eternally ready and anxious to remind them of their inferior social position. It seems that our so-called best society has not yet realized that when they hire a servant and occupy his time that they are morally obligated to help that servant maintain a decent standard of living. There are so many people in Charlotte who can count their income in terms of hundreds, and even thousands a week, and who seem to have not the least bit of shame about hiring a servant demanding long hours for seven days a week, and paying a mere \$5 a week. There lies the root of most of the trouble — it is economic. There is a great need for a crusade to put the mother of small children back into the home. But this cannot be done until the men of the home are able to get jobs which pay more than \$10 a week.

In Charlotte there are many doors shut in the faces of Negroes, which, it seems, would lead to a lack of real inspiration to strive toward the high and noble and the good. What can a Negro boy or girl do worthy of striving and putting forth his best, if he does not decide to be a minister or a school teacher? Could a Negro boy strive to be a postal clerk or letter carrier, or enter into some of the civil service jobs here in the city, or could a Negro boy be inspired to enter a position in our city government or a bus driver on routes in the city which run into Negro sections, or any other self-respecting job in the city which requires a person to be sober, thrifty, clean, courteous and cultured?

The answer is the unequivocal NO. Because white boys and girls are the only ones who can aspire to those positions. Opportunities for employment in jobs which bring out the best there is in young men or women are in the most part definitely closed to Negroes, even in the cases where these positions are set up to operate in Negro sections of the city and for the purpose of serving Negroes.

The conditions of crime and low moral attitudes among Negroes in Charlotte will continue to exist until something constructive is done by way of recognizing the efforts of those who do strive, and rewarding them according to their achievements. The Negro must be

made to think more of his own importance in the scheme of things around Charlotte. The Negro must be given a better chance to live.

C. E. BOULWARE.

CONCORD.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Caste System and Crime Statistics

DEC 6 1941

SELDOM does anyone having to do with the administration of justice, or the reporting of crime go into the fundamental reasons for the high incidence of arrests among the Negro population. Those who are interested in such a study should read an article by Dr. Guy B. Johnson, of the University of North Carolina, entitled "The Negro and Crime," published in the September number of The Annals of The American Academy of Political and Social Science. Reprints have been made of the article and may be obtained from Dr. Johnson.

What Dr. Johnson has written is the result of scientific research. His explorations lead to the finding that the Negro's caste position and his subordinate social status with all of their environmental circumstances make him the special object of the law, the special perpetrator of certain crimes which do not classify as crimes or causes for arrest when white people are involved, and which form the bases for what appears to be excessive criminality among Negroes. On

"Caste and Historical Factors" he says: DEC 6 1941

Of all the ethnic groups that have come to this country, the Negro is the only one to experience the degradation of slavery and a persistent status of subordination. Slavery in a sense dehumanized the Negro. It disrupted his native culture and taught him the rudiments of white civilization, but it did not permit him to develop as a whole man. It prevented the development of three things which are generally considered essential for normal group life: stable family relations, stable economic organization, and stable community life. Furthermore slavery nurtured a set of habits and attitudes which still afflict many thousands of Negroes. Among these

are lack of self-respect, lack of self-confidence, a distaste for hard work, a habit of dependence upon white friends, lack of regard for the property of others, a feeling that "the white folks owe us a living," a distrust of the white man's law, and a tendency to "let tomorrow take care of itself."

DEC 6 1941

Dr. Johnson goes on from that point to speak of the Negro's cultural retardation and his social and economic disabilities which must be attributed "in large measure to historical factors reinforced by the continuing vicious circle of caste barriers," and in discussing "Caste in the Administration of Justice" he gives the "Caste Definition of Crime":

There are many acts which are rarely if ever considered crimes when done by white persons but which are frequently defined as crimes when committed by Negroes. In the South the caste definition of crime has the sanction of both law and custom. Numerous laws concerning segregation, vagrancy, labor, etc., create a wide range of possible "crimes" which Negroes can commit. Capital punishment is applied to Negro offenders with relatively greater frequency than to whites, and it is common knowledge that "first degree burglary" is defined as a capital crime in several states as a threat to Negro offenders who enter a white residence after dark.

WE have barely skimmed the surface of the illuminating article by Dr. Johnson. With the precision of the research scholar he locates the bases for the extraordinary number of arrests — frequently made in mass — which magnify the statistical record of Negro crime. He makes no attempt, of course, to deny obvious facts of criminality which exist, but he reveals the social and economic factors which make this excessive tendency something that is often separate and apart from any circumstances surrounding the opposite race.

15-1941

Chattanooga, Tenn., Daily Times
March 6, 1941

Crime and Poverty

Negroes Should Have Opened "The Door to Earning a Decent Living"

To The Editor of The Chattanooga Times:

Your leading editorial entitled "Crime Among Negroes" is commendable in bringing to the attention of your readers thoughtful expressions of opinion on the subject by leading citizens.

It is difficult to understand, however, why you agree that "poverty provides the underlying explanation of the high incidence of crime among the Negroes in Chattanooga" and yet imply that the chief solution lies in enforcement of capital punishment. Why not attack the fundamental cause?

You also evade the issue when you refer to specific recommendations advanced in solution of the problems, viz: appointment of Negro police officers and Negro jurors, but completely refrain from commenting thereon either pro or con. Such recommendations appear to me to be worthy of serious consideration as they attack the problem from both ends by ensuring better law enforcement among Negroes and by providing, in a small way, economic opportunities which would tend to reduce the underlying cause of poverty.

When the door to earning a decent living is practically closed, what can you expect but crime and poverty no matter how many you hang?

LINDSLEY H. NOBLE.

505 Fort Wood Place.
Chattanooga.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Daily Times
March 6, 1941

Negroes and Crime

Chairman of Seventh Ward Precinct
Discusses the Situation

To The Editor of The Chattanooga Times:

I don't want to be misquoted or misunderstood in that what I am about to say is my own version; neither do I expect everyone to agree with me or be in harmony with all opinions. I am only speaking from experience and as I see it.

First, among the main causes for so much killing among the Negroes in our city is the economic condition under which they have lived for the last few years.

Secondly, the Negro of today is not the same that he was some 25 years ago or more in that he was not enlightened as to his rights which the United States Constitution provided for its citizens, but today he is aware of such, consequently when he is denied these rights it puts him in the wrong frame of mind, such as taking his jobs from him and giving him no real reason for doing so. This of course puts

him on the streets instead of at home; while out there idle he seeks a way to get something since he cannot and is not allowed to make an honest dollar.

He will attempt other ways to get the dollar, then when he is apprehended and carried before the courts in so many cases he is persecuted rather than prosecuted, this puts him in an ill spirit since he feels that he will not only be prosecuted but persecuted, thus his mind falls in a "don't care" frame.

Thirdly, the Negro of today has learned what the Negro of yesterday was, so he compares the two and asks himself the question—Why? Now for the other group trying to make him think all he wants is social equality, this the Negro knows better for he doesn't want to abide in the Patten or Read House or next door, nor eat at the same table with the white. In fact he has almost arrived at the point where he doesn't care very much for any kind of contact since it has been shown him in many instances that he is not wanted; that when it comes to court he has learned that his case in most instances is decided before the trial. Then when it is tried, he realizes that he is not being tried according to the way the constitution says he should be tried—he loses hope on justice.

The judge is white, states attorney is white, 12 jurors white, the jury foreman white, his lawyer white and the opposing lawyer also white. Not inferring that all of these are not high class men, but that the Negro is not being tried according to law. Now I can see no real cause for this being denied the Negro.

The Negro has done much for the American flag. He has proved to be loyal in every endeavor. He has been placed and given a chance, even in the present day when the government needs each and everyone to do his bit and in some cases he is being discriminated against, he is displaying his loyalty, he is kicking and complaining about not having a chance to do his share. Now when most of the above things are changed then and only then will so much homicide be stopped.

In order to stop most of the killing the law must do so by rigid enforcement of the laws, whoever is guilty let them be dealt with according to law and justice and not let political status cause the law and court to bring a mark on all Negroes. Not encouraging the Negro to do wrong or uphold him in violating the law. If this is not done it will eventually lead to killing anyone. Then the wool will fly.

Now put out Negro police with full authority, put Negroes on the jury like they used to at one time here; just 111 miles from here—Knoxville, Tennessee, where Negroes are used as peace officers, why not Chattanooga? What's wrong that such cannot be, and why is there so much difference between Chattanooga and Knoxville?

Let's face facts and act accordingly. We have the best city government that could be expected with all the heads, Mayor, City Judge, Police Commissioner and no higher class of men can be found any-

GENERAL

where than the ones we now have from the head on down; so lets help them to do things that is needed to be done and I do believe that they will when they see we really want these things done.

Let's stop covering up crime and go to the courts and tell the truth on whoever is involved.

H. W. NEWELL.

Chairman 7th Ward, 2nd Precinct; President Willing Workers Club of the 7th Ward.
Chattanooga.

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Save the Human Waste

Far too many young Negroes are before the courts for crime. For the most part their offenses are petty. The majesty of the law is in no danger from such as they. But they break the rules to their own and to society's loss. Their families lose what they would earn if they worked and the public loses what it costs to restrain their misdeeds.

The reason for their stealing—the usual crime—is evident. They are unemployed, and they see others have what they want but have not the way to earn. Given the best intentions in the world these young people cannot get work.

Society is asking them to be good citizens without giving them the means. They are human wreckage, product of a storm that they were unable to escape. It seems heartless to blame them for their condition. Yet because the community cannot shut its eyes to lawless seizure of property, they are hailed into court.

FEB 21 1941

There must be something better than sending youth to prison and taxing the public for their keep. Society has failed them, and society should labor along with them for their betterment. All the fault is not theirs, even though their rehabilitation cannot be brought about without their cooperation. The public cannot excuse its doing nothing by blaming them.

FEB 21 1941

In a few minutes, with a judge on one side and the prosecutor on the other, a young man who under one set of circumstances could have started to-

ward a useful life, enters the doorway over which is written "All hope abandoned ye who enter here." If only a friendly hand had been outstretched to him sooner! It was not, because the rest of us are "too busy." But we cannot get so busy that we escape the effect of his mistake. We have our goods taken, and when they are, we work to support the thief. Obviously we should act soon rather than too late.

Incidentally saving some person would be a source of joy not to be found in any other way. There are spots on this continent where a cup of water thrown to the east will make its way into the Atlantic ocean, and if thrown to the west would end up in the Pacific. The difference between a young person's worth and worthlessness is that little at some point in his career. It is thrilling to know the possibilities of a word, a pat on the back, or an example in turning youth's feet the better way.

Atlanta NAACP Plans Appeal Of \$27 Fine Given In Trolley Case

OCT 2 1941

Argue Over Who Is To Board St. Car First

OCT 2 1941
Woman Charges
Man Kicked Her In the Mouth

Irked over the \$27 fine assessed Mrs. Ruth Thornton of 346 Oliver street on "disorderly conduct" charges growing out of a scuffle with E. V. McCoy, white, over which one was to board a River line street car first, T. M. Alexander, president of the Atlanta NAACP, announced Wednesday night that the decision of Recorder A. W. Callaway would be appealed.

The Thornton case was one of many incidents which have been occurring in recent weeks between street car passengers of opposite races. The chief contention in most of the incidents has been over Negroes getting on street cars in front of white passengers.

LIPS SWOLLEN, BLOODY

Her lips bloody and badly swollen, Mrs. Thornton who was arrested Wednesday afternoon on charges of "disorderly conduct" told the court how she was standing at the Jones Avenue and Marietta St. car stop when the street car came

to a stop.

Just as she was about to board the car according to her testimony, Mrs. Thornton was suddenly pushed back by McCoy who ran up a second or two after the car stopped.

A dispute ensued, but McCoy, she said, insisted on boarding the car first. After reaching the top step the man, she charged suddenly turned and kicked her twice, his foot striking her in the mouth.

The street car operator, who gave his name at the trial as A. C. Rogers, then came between the two, it was testified.

Later, white witnesses asserted that Mrs. Thornton, her lips bleeding, picked up a stone and hurled it at the street car. The rock fell short of its mark.

CALLED HIM NAME

McCoy in his testimony, charged that Mrs. Thornton attempted to push him back and board the car first. When he got on first, he said, the woman called him an ugly name. He then described how she later hurled the rock, though failing to say anything about the kicking episode.

"What did you do when she called you that name?" queried Defense Counsel George Willingham.

"Why I swung at her with all my might," McCoy replied. He didn't deny that he had kicked her. Officer Paul Jones, who answered police radio call seized Mrs. Thornton, but made no case against McCoy.

J. E. Bowden, white, who said he had been living in the Jones avenue section for forty years and was a tax-payer, testified that ever since the Jones avenue bridge had been condemned, "it looks like the n—rs are just trying to make trouble."

GET ON FIRST

Since no street cars are allowed to cross the bridge, passengers riding the River car line must get off at Jones avenue and Marietta street, walk across the bridge and

The Negro and Crime

A long way around by way of *The Springfield Republican* comes an interesting item in the effort to curb crime among Negroes in Louisville, Kentucky. *The Republican* reports:

The "first step" in combatting "the serious problem of violent crimes perpetrated by Negroes against members of their own race" was recently taken, according to the Louisville Courier-Journal, when an all-Negro coroner's jury in that city returned verdicts in five such cases.

The Louisville paper contends that it is the fault of the white race that the problem of attacks by Negroes on Negroes has become so acute. Negro criminals, it is pointed out, have for the most part been tried "in white courts by white juries." To this it is added that there has been "a notorious tendency in the South to dismiss as unimportant the crimes which Negroes have committed against other Negroes."

Every Southerner knows that, though his region has been condemned at a distance most vigorously for too great harshness in dealing with Negroes in the hands of the law, that in crimes among Negroes alone it has often been dangerously lenient. It is rare that a Negro killer is executed for the murder of a member of his own race. Indeed, sometimes such killings are treated almost as if they were trivial matters. Obviously such a course denies to law-abiding Negroes protection from the criminal element in the race. It should be obvious also that killers are killers and that the proper line to draw with regard to them is not the color line but the crime line.

There may be much difference of opinion as to the Louisville plan. Certainly there are difficulties in such a procedure. The one certain thing is that the safety of all men, white and black, in the South depends upon a justice which is equally concerned with the crimes of men regardless of their color. Crime is not racial and a sensible justice cannot be racial, either.

15-1941

GEORGIA

Telegraph
Macon, Georgia

Negro Loses Appeal
On All-White Jury

DUBLIN, Oct. 16.—The Georgia supreme court has affirmed the death sentence of Frank Cornelius, Twiggs county Negro convicted of the murder of his father. Solicitor General J. Eugene Cook was informed Thursday.

OCT 17 1941
The Negro's attorneys, Jim Shannon and Bud Griffin, of Jeffersonville, appealed the verdict on the grounds that no Negroes were in the Twiggs county jury box.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Boy Critically Shot
During Rock Throwing

A Negro boy listed as James Lewis, 15, of 323 Green street, Pleasant Hill, was in critical condition yesterday at the Macon hospital from three bullet wounds in the back, and police were holding two other Negroes in connection with what they termed a rock-throwing incident in a colored section.

Attendants said they were told that the Lewis boy was shot after some rocks were thrown through the window of a house. Held were Albert Cornelius, 34, of 113 Daisy street, and David Lee Vinson, 13, who was said to have been with Lewis. The technical charge was loitering.

Physicians were preparing to operate on Lewis.

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Convict Camp Rules

Editor Constitution: I notice in The Constitution of Friday, November 21, an editorial captioned "Not the Lash," which comments on the report of the joint house and senate penitentiary committee.

In the comment it is stated, "Some of the recommendations of the committee are rather surprising; not, it is true, in themselves directly, but surprisingly that there should now be in Georgia any need for such recommendations.

NOV 2 1941
In justice to the commission I

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Guard-Killer
Of Convict
OCT 18 1941
Faces Trial

Roy Rice, a DeKalb County convict guard indicted in the slaying of Lester Broughton, colored convict guard, will be tried during a special term of DeKalb Superior Court beginning Monday.

Rice is charged with killing the colored convict during a row over a delay in serving supper at the county camp.

The convict guard's case is scheduled for the second week when criminal cases will be tried. Civil cases are on the calendar for next week. Judge James C. Davis will preside over the entire session.

For instance, the committee urges separate sleeping quarters, mess halls, hospitals and other buildings for white and Negro convicts. It will come as a shock to most Georgians to know the races are, as this would indicate, comingled in the camps.

In order that no false impression may result from the committee's report and your editorial, I feel that it is my duty, as chairman of the State Prison and Parole Commission, to point out that the recommendations made in the committee's report are practically identical with the rules and regulations promulgated by the State Prison and Parole Commission, a copy of which was furnished the committee during their investigations.

The paragraph in which the committee recommends separate sleeping quarters, mess halls, etc., for white and Negro convicts is a part of the commission's rules and regulations as regards buildings and equipment. Separate quarters are and always have been maintained for white and Negro convicts at all camps.

The rules also require that wardens shall visit each prisoner held in solitary confinement at least every morning and every evening.

In justice to the commission I

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Dr. Moore Gets
OCT 26 1941

Year And A Day

Attorney Will Appeal

Sentence Tomorrow

OCT 26 1941
A prison sentence of a year and a day was meted Dr. John Henry Moore in federal court Saturday. Moore had been convicted October 16 on two counts of a narcotic charge. Judge E. Marvin Underwood pronounced sentence on Moore.

Defense Attorney Clint Hagel said he would appeal Dr. Moore's case immediately. An appeal bond of \$1,500 will be signed in Federal Court Monday morning, he said, pending signing of the appeal. Meanwhile, Dr. Moore is in jail pending signing of the appeal bond.

OCT 26 1941
Dr. Moore was convicted on the last two counts of a seven-count indictment following a four-day trial in Federal Court. The counts re-stated that Dr. Moore sold narcotics to a young white woman and her brother on Atlanta streets. Dr. Moore admitted treating the two young people for social diseases and said it was necessary for them to have morphine on one or two occasions.

The convicted medic drew a pardon from former Governor Rivers in 1939 after having served slightly more than three years of a life sentence in the brutal slaying of his erstwhile sweetheart, Miss Lula Bowden, at Griffin. The Spalding county trial was one of the most sensational in the annals of Georgia court history.

feel that you will be glad to give these facts to the public.

CLEM E. RAINY.
Commission Chairman.
Atlanta.

Telegraph
Macon, Georgia
Courthouse News

Negro Sues Owner of Truck
For \$10,000 in Wife's Death

OCT 26 1941
A \$10,000 damage suit, growing out of a fatal accident here recently, was filed in city court Friday afternoon.

Albert Robinson, Negro, is asking damages from Mrs. Lillian Wilder in the death of his wife, Lessie Belle Robinson, who was killed Nov. 7, 1941, when hit by Mrs. Wilder's truck. The truck was driven by Allen McCrea.

The suit says the woman was hit after she had left a Georgia Power company bus at Napier avenue and Burton and was crossing Napier. It charges McCrea, agent for Mrs. Wilder, was speeding and driving in a negligent manner. O. L. Long and H. E. Nottingham are attorneys for the plaintiff.

A dispute over a taxi fare, which allegedly caused the passenger to be beaten by the cab driver and spend six hours in the Macon jail, is the basis of a \$3,500 suit filed in city court yesterday.

G. B. Pate is asking damages of the Yellow Cab Transportation Company. Hallie B. Bell

and R. B. Rhodenfiser Jr. are Pate's attorneys.

Transferred from Bibb superior court to the city court Friday was the misdemeanor case against O. F. Davis and the Georgia Truck System, charged with violating the motor carriers act by hauling freight and property for hire from Port Wentworth, Ga., to Macon, without a Georgia Public Service Commission certificate. Also transferred to city court were the cases against J. M. Irby, charged with shooting into a dwelling, and W. E. Allen, misdemeanor.

Telegraph
Macon, Georgia

Christmas' Comes Every Week For Bibb Jail Negro Inmates

By M. L. ST. JOHN

There are quite a number of days yet until Christmas. And there are a few days yet until the pre-season arrival of Santa Claus in Macon.

But it was "Christmas" for Negroes at the Bibb county jail yesterday. It will be "Christmas" for them again next Wednesday. For Wednesday is visiting day for colored prisoners.

The prison men and women look forward to the arrival of visitors each week with the same eagerness that a child looks forward to the annual visit of Saint Nick.

PRESENTS PILE HIGH

Their wives, husbands, children, parents, and sweethearts swarm into the corridors to bring them the latest news of the folks at home, and to cheer them up. They also pile high the presents for the inmates on the prison desk. There you can see a steaming hot chicken pie in a big pan, some tempting hot biscuits from home, big cakes, a bright colored woman's slip, some men's shoes, and all kinds of clothing.

The corridors through the cell blocs resound with a confusion of voices as the visitors talk with the men and women behind the bars and screens. Some prisoners have quite a long line of relatives and friends waiting to take their turn to speak with them.

Every Negro in the jail gets a visitor on Wednesday. If no one comes to see him that day, a visitor who is waiting to talk with his or her friend will come over to "pass the time of day" with the prisoner.

PATHOS OBSERVED Most of the talking is interspersed with laughter, as the Negroes take a philosophical view of their situation.

There is tragedy, however.

A sad Negress was leaving the jail Wednesday afternoon with a bundle under her arms. An assistant jailer stopped her to inspect the bundle, and found it contained plates.

"Next time bring paper plates," he advised.

"I'm going to try for it not to be no next time," she said in a broken voice. She was gone before it could be learned whether she had quarreled with her friend or relative, or whether she embarrassed, was hopeful that the prisoner would not be an inmate when next visiting day comes around.

that solitary confinement, rather than the lash, would continue to be the method of punishment for unruly Georgia prisoners.

"The lash will not return to Georgia," said the Governor in announcing ~~he had approved~~ a majority report of a joint legislative committee that investigated state and county prison camps for several months.

A majority of members recommended continued use of solitary confinement, although urging that the cells be constructed to admit more light and air and that other restrictions surround the confinement of prisoners.

Whipping of prisoners was advocated by three members of the committee.

The lash was abolished as a means of punishing Georgia convicts about 20 years ago during the administration of former Governor Tom Hardwick.

Boy, 14, Gets 5-10 Years For Manslaughter

Willie McCrary

Convicted For

5-Cent Slaying

OCT 14 1941

Found guilty of voluntary manslaughter in connection with the fatal stabbing on August 30 of 16-year-old Matthew George, of 1048 West Avenue, SW, Willie McCrary, 14 years, old of 1078 1/2 Street, SW, Monday was given a sentence of five to 10 years in prison.

Stabbed in the right chest during a street fight in the 1100 block of Fortress Avenue, George died 20 minutes after entering Grady hospital.

The fight, according to testimony, followed an argument over a debt of five cents.

The youthful defendant was tried in a Fulton Superior Court with Judge Walter Hendrix presiding. Officers Preston and New were detectives in the case.

McCrary claimed self-defense.

It was not definitely known Monday night whether the boy will serve his time in an industrial home or in a prison camp.

Constitution

Atlanta, Georgia

Governor Says Lash Will Not Return to State

DEC 2 1941

'Solitary' To Continue as
Means of Punishment
for Prisoners.

The Governor said yesterday

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

WALTER CHIVERS SAYS:

community-at-large permits.

This conflict forces the privileged Negroes to isolate themselves from the masses out of sheer self-preservation. Such a "hands off" policy deprives the white police officers of valuable cooperation in solving and preventing, at least, such major crimes as homicides.

STRENGTHEN BONDS

The conflicts defined here have resulted in strengthening the bonds of the Negro Self-Defense Society. I have been told that this is vividly demonstrated in the reticence of Negroes to testify against one another. They are often such difficult witnesses as to completely thwart the ends of justice.

Negroes living in the better neighborhoods are frantically protecting their homes with burglar proof guards. An observation tour through the same class of white neighborhoods has shown me that such is not so generally the case. These Negro neighborhoods are more liable to be burglarized because of the infrequent police patrol. The important fact, however, is that these Negroes use burglar guards in preference to seeking more adequate police protection.

Negro police, then, would be sought after by privileged Negroes to protect their homes. Thus crimes that often result in homicides would assist the officers in discontinuing the use of their neighborhoods as training grounds for professionals criminals. These unprotected communities do serve as training areas for future professionals criminals.

TENSION NOTED

This tension between Negroes and white police officers is due in part also to the traditional concept of the white South of a "bad nigger". Of course the definition of "bad nigger" is narrow or broad in proportion to the urbanization of the environment. In any case it is inelastic enough as to cause Negroes to be fearful of contact with police officers.

Educated Negroes have used their developed intelligence to devise ways and means, often subtle, of staying clear of police officers. The police authorities, therefore, concentrate most of their efforts upon "bad niggers"—never changing their concept with the changing times. Their work would have been easier were they able to realize the fact that the "bad nigger" of today is generally a more literate and sensitive soul than Negroes of yesterday. These officers have refused to see that in almost every southern community the definition of the "Negro's place" has broadened. The result is that often they mistreat a Negro for doing things that the

Negroes would be proud of Negro police and would cooperate to help them make good. This would be especially true in Atlanta where Negroes have demonstrated pride in Negro achievements for many years. This is illustrated by the variety and quality of Negro businesses and educational institutions.

Negro police could be elected from among college trained men with backgrounds in economics, sociology, criminology and professional

paid salaries. The white police would attract some of the cream of educated Negro youth. Police records are negative but convincing proof that Negro college trained men respect the law. The military records show that they will make good soldiers. A trial prove them to be good policemen.

15-1941

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

ONE WORD MORE

By RALPH McGILL.

CRIME, STANDARDS, METHODS We currently are in another of our acrimonious fights in the police department.

The crime record of Atlanta is, as the chief says, bad. Very bad.

There are a lot of quick-on-the-trigger persons who know the answers.

They recommend the well-known panaceas.

None of which has ever worked and none of which ever will work.

We have enough police.

We have enough laws.

One may start from there.

Our crime record, compared with other cities of a similar size in the south, and possessing like climate and approximate Negro populations, leaves Atlanta in a very bad position.

Compared with the national average the record is appalling.

I doubt if anything will be done about it.

The plans aren't there and, what is worse, public opinion isn't there. Emotions are aroused, but they are, as usual, aroused without direction.

Resolutions, protests and dexterity in the use of the political knife-in-the-back won't help much. At least, they never have.

An attack on juke joints isn't the answer. An attack on drive-ins isn't the answer.

There are juke joints which are joints and which produce crime. The same applies to drive-ins. The police know which ones they are. The police committee knows. The inspectors know.

They are easy to close.

General, indiscriminate campaigns are never an answer.

A FEW PRESCRIPTIONS There are some things which could be done. All of them will take time.

In the first place, the standards required for police force eligibility are ridiculously low. The examination requires not more than a seventh-grade education.

With the advance in police methods, with security of tenure, with the advancements in pay, the police force could be made attractive in a manner similar to that adopted by the FBI.

The standards of entry are much too low and too inadequate. The police are selected by the police committee.

Under the present setup that is the expected procedure and members of committee are not subject to criticism. As long as the system is as it is, they cannot be expected to do otherwise and would, in a sense, be unwise to do anything else.

Appointment of police who have passed an inadequate examination is now, as it always has been, political patronage. There is no cheating in the examination. Once they are passed it, they become subject to patronage. This is not something new. It is the old, customary procedure.

The chief—not just this chief or the last chief—never has any real authority. He is subject to constant political pressure, the "outs" trying to tear him down, the "ins" trying to build up their strength through the department.

That's just politics.

It would be interesting to see what would happen if Atlanta could have a good, tough, capable man and give him a contract which would make him free of interference for two years and see what would happen.

ADD PRESCRIPTIONS It is a convenient excuse to say that our large Negro population with its high percentage of murderers and robberies explains our high crime rate.

It does. Yet it must be remembered that Atlanta, compared with a horrible beating. In Crisp county the

GEORGIA

other southern cities with the same Negro population, does not show a record as bad.

This, too is easy to explain.

In the first place our courts, to our shame and, although no one seems to see it, to our very financial cost, never take Negro crime seriously.

A Negro murderer, killing another Negro, rarely receives any severe punishment.

Juries and prosecutors have, for years, viewed them lightly as just another Negro killing and, therefore, of not much importance.

That has cost us a lot of good, sound dollars and still is costing us dollars. Anything which breeds contempt for law is costly. The prohibition law, which didn't stop drinking, bred the kidnapers, the gangsters and a disrespect for law which cost this country much in money and character. Negro crime, which we always blandly have held to be not very important, is very important if we add up the cost to ourselves and also if we add up how much of a detriment it is to the Negro leaders trying to improve their race and its position.

The high Negro crime rate is easy to explain but it is not to be explained merely by saying the skins of those murdering one another are black.

We need some good, common sense work and planning and not any holy war against crime which will last a few weeks and then subside.

There are a lot of reasons for our high crime rate and the police committee-police chief row is just one of the factors.

Thomasville, Ga. Press

August 29, 1941

► IN even the most prejudice-ridden

sections of the South few persons deny the privilege of civil justice—in theory, at least—to the Negro. Equal advantages in education may be disregarded, discriminations practiced in paying wages, and social equality completely scorned, but few whites believe—in theory, still—that the Negro should not receive fair treatment in courts, in "public work camps", and in prison. Unfortunately, this theory of civil justice is not enforced. When Negroes are mistreated, it is the usual custom of white persons to ignore what has happened and place small blame on the men responsible. Within the last few weeks several examples of inhumane torture and murder have been revealed in Georgia. In Dade county the warden of the Rising Fawn prison camp jammed twenty-two

Negroes into a hot, airless room that measured only 7 1-2 x 7 1-2 feet square. One Negro suffocated. In Hancock county the body of a Negro, who was reported to have died of "sunstroke," has been disinterred to see if he really died from

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

Louisville Jail Break

Is Foiled by Sheriff

Special to THE CONSTITUTION
LOUISVILLE, Ga., Oct. 8.—

Wade Holley, former Augusta policeman, in jail here under death sentence for the slaying of Bee Beckum on March 1940, Louisville filling station operator, was foiled today in an attempt to escape. He and three fellow prisoners, it is said, had sawed an opening in the block of cells in which they were locked and had picked almost through the brick wall when daylight evidently overtook them this morning, at which time they suspended operations.

The Negro janitor at the jail noticed the debris from the wall and made the report to the sheriff, who investigated.

Holley's case is now in the federal court. This is the second time the sheriff has found hacksaw blades in the jail, presumably to be used in freeing Holly.

Cordele chief of police has been accused of arresting a Negro, who owed a white man \$7.00, and shooting him to death when the Negro objected to being beaten by the chief and the man to whom he owed the money. These cases have been brought to light, and there are doubtless many more that have been skillfully hidden from public knowledge. If Georgia cannot improve conditions in her courts, chain-gangs (delicately called "public work camps") and prisons, the federal government will have to take action. The privileges of a minority, even a black one, must be protected.

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Atlanta Ga. Journal
September 15, 1941

Two Bandits Slug, Rob Man Opening Store

Victim Averts Serious In- jury When Blow Is De- flected by Hand.

Instinctively throwing up his hand when two Negroes slugged and robbed him yesterday morning, Hyman Kessler, 68, head of the H. Kessler & Company department store at 92 Whitehall street, probably saved his life.

A vicious blow aimed at his head broke a finger but did not fracture his skull, relatives said.

Police reported an "undetermined amount of money" believed to be approximately \$600, was taken by the two bandits, who apparently hid in the Kessler store overnight and surprised the owner when he came down at 7 o'clock yesterday morning to open the store and the safe.

Ed Kessler, son of the firm president, said his father customarily came down early and opened the store although his family had urged him not to do it.

Kessler was taking money from the safe and placing it on a counter when one Negro slipped up behind him and covered the storekeeper's eyes with his hands. The other slugged Kessler with a blunt instrument, probably a blackjack. The force of the blow broke his finger, gashed his up-flung hand and cut his scalp.

Treated by a private physician, Kessler was reported to be suffering from shock and was confined to his bed with orders to see no one.

Radio Police E. S. McEwing and E. H. Harkins investigated the robbery and Detectives Leo Nahlik and M. M. Cappenger were assigned to follow the case. Fingerprints found about the scene were taken by the detectives.

Crime and Atlanta's Police

OPPONENTS OF Police Chief Hornsby assert that crime in our city runs rampant and that, therefore, the Chief ought not to be given full control of the Police Department. If conditions are as bad as these critics aver, it by no means follows that the remedy lies in making the Chief a mere puppet and in turning the Department over to political bosses. On the contrary, no police administration can be efficient without a responsible and disinterested head, empowered to do his duty without fear or favor or political interference.

But what are the facts concerning crime under Chief Hornsby's tenure of office? At the recent public hearing before the Ordinance Committee of Council, on a measure to give the Chief due authority, Mayor LeCraw declared that figures compiled by the Federal Bureau of Investigation showed "Atlanta's crime record as the worst in the country." If the Mayor had looked a bit more closely in the FBI report he would have found such statements as the following:

In publishing the data sent in by chiefs of police in different cities, the FBI does not vouch for their accuracy.... A great deal of caution should be exercised in comparing crime data for individual cities, because differences in figures may be due to a variety of factors. . . . Some of the factors which might affect the amount of crime in a community (are): Population of the city and metropolitan area adjacent thereto. The composition of the population with reference particularly to age, sex and race. The number of police employees per unit of population. The standards governing appointments to the police force. The policies of prosecuting officials and courts.

Thus the figures which show a charge of 111 murders against Atlanta in 1940 should be checked by the fact that 101 of these cases involved Negroes, while only 10 had to do with whites. It should be noted, too, that the responsibility of the police ends when criminals are caught and evidence is furnished for their prosecution. If courts then fail to convict or if the guilty, after conviction, are set free by executive pardons, the police are not to blame. Mayor LeCraw has made

much of the idea that "crimes stem from juke joints, drive-ins and beer parlors," and he appears to hold Chief Hornsby responsible for them. The fact is that every such place in Atlanta operates under a license recommended by the Mayor's own Police Committee of Council.

Significantly enough, this committee is now dominated by the same politicians who ruled the Police Department in the shameful years before M. A. Hornsby was made Chief under the Hartsfield administration and began his vigorous and constructive reforms. The vital issue today is whether the Police Department shall be under Chief Hornsby's impartial and upright leadership, or be turned back to the political clique which reduced it to its lowest level of efficiency of morale.

Atlanta Constitution
September 17, 1941

ADD PRESCRIPTIONS

It is a convenient excuse to say that our large Negro population with its high percentage of murderers and robbers explains our high crime rate.

It does. Yet it must be remembered that Atlanta, compared with other southern cities with the same Negro population, does not show a record as good.

This, too, is easy to explain.

In the first place our courts, to our shame and, although no one seems to see it, to our very great financial cost, never take Negro crime seriously.

A Negro murderer, killing another Negro, rarely receives any severe punishment.

Juries and prosecutors have, for years, viewed them lightly as just another Negro killing and, therefore, of not much importance.

That has cost us a lot of good, sound dollars and still is costing us dollars. Anything which breeds contempt for law is costly. The prohibition law, which didn't stop drinking, bred the kidnapers, the gangsters and a disrespect for law which cost this country much in money and character. Negro crime, which we always blandly have held to be not very important, is very important if we add up the cost to ourselves and also if we add up how much of a detriment it is to the Negro leaders trying to improve their race and its position.

The high Negro crime rate is easy to explain but it is not to be explained merely by saying the skins of those murdering one another are black.

We need some good, common sense work and planning and not perior court, at the October term any holy war against crime which will last a few weeks and then of court subside.

There are a lot of reasons for our high crime rate and the police committee-police chief row is just one of the factors.

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

4 Negro Boys Held in Griffin Train Wreck

Engineer Hopkins, Hurt in Crash, Still in Hospital.

Special to THE CONSTITUTION.

GRIFFIN, Ga., Sept. 29.—Local police today arrested four Negro boys in connection with the Southern railway wreck last Friday night in the Griffin freight yards, in which the engineer was seriously injured.

The boys are listed as Willie Junior Laster, Sam Felton, Marion Johnson and Billy Blanton, all living near the scene of the crash.

They told police that with an iron bar they broke a switch lock at Jones spur "to see the train loopa-de-loop off the culvert, like in the picture shows."

Meanwhile railroad workers cleared away the wreckage yesterday and estimated the damage at more than \$6,000.

R. T. Hopkins, Atlanta engineer, was still confined at Strickland Memorial hospital, where his condition was described as improving this morning. He received severe head injuries when the cab of the engine left the track. The fireman jumped to safety.

The boys, ranging from 11 to 13, have been placed in the county jail, pending a hearing before Judge Chester A. Byars, of the su-

15-1941

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Chandler Is Freed Under \$1,000 Bond

Albert Chandler, former Governor Rivers ex-chauffeur, was at liberty Sunday after obtaining his freedom late Friday night from Fulton Tower by posting \$1,000 to assure his appearance for trial on two charges of "peddling pardons" during the Rivers' administration.

N. A. Garner, professional bondsman, posted bond for Chandler, according to jail officials.

Chandler was arrested last week in Mineola, N.Y. On his arrival here Thursday in custody of city detectives, Chandler was questioned for two hours by members of the grand jury.

The grand jury in special presentations asked the Federal Government to investigate Rivers' income during the time he was in office.

Fulton Solicitor General John A. Boykin said Saturday he would introduce information he obtained from Chandler to the new county grand jury which will be sworn in tomorrow morning.

Telegraph
Macon, Georgia

22 Killers

Said on List Of Customers

Jurors Demand Probe Into Ex-Governor's Sources of Income

ATLANTA, July 22.—An indictment accusing an ex-chauffeur of former Governor E. D. Rivers of selling pardons was made public Tuesday almost simultaneously with a Fulton county grand jury request that the federal government investigate "all sources" of Rivers' income during his four-year administration.

Sheriff C. L. Chandler, of Seminole County, Ga., said Wash Parramore, 22, Negro, confessed that at Mrs. Warren's behest, he shot Warren near him and threw his body in a ditch near Gordon, Ala.

Warren's body was found not far from where Emmett Lovelace wealthy bachelor, was killed in 1933. Warren was acquitted of charges of premeditated murder on a plea of self-defense.

Warren was head of the Warren Oil Co. in Donalsonville.

Mrs. Warren and the Negro, who also was charged with murder, were held in the Houston County Jail at Dothan, Ala. They will get a commitment hearing Monday.

By United Press.
DOOTHAN, July 22.—Sheriff Byrd G. Farmer said today he was hold-

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ing Mrs. Curtis Warren and Wash Parramore, Negro, on charges of murdering Mrs. Warren's husband, after Parramore charged she had hired him to kill Warren.

Sheriff Farmer said Parramore admitted shooting Warren in an auto that night inside the Alabama line, throwing him into a ditch, and then shooting him again.

The *Daily Worker*
New York, N.Y.

Criminal Killing of Negro Rewarded by Talmadge

Georgia Governor Appoints Ex-Convicts as Prison Warden; Action Follows Death of Negro Prisoner in Chain Gang Sweat-Box

The *Daily Worker* carries the following United Press story to show the newest Hitlerite activities of Governor Eugene Talmadge of Georgia. This action comes in the midst of a storm of protest raised by the death recently of a Negro prisoner in a sweat-box on a Georgia chain gang.

ATLANTA, Ga., Aug. 18 (UP).—Defending appointment of two ex-convicts as prison camp wardens, Gov. Eugene Talmadge today said:

"If you want to get somebody who knows how to treat prisoners why not get somebody who has been a prisoner himself and knows how they ought to be treated?"

A legislative committee had revealed that Ed and Fred Goble, twins sentenced to life for murder in 1922 and pardoned by Talmadge a decade later, were wardens at prison camps in Laurens and Coffee County, respectively.

"These two boys (the Gobles) helped a deputy sheriff kill a Negro in Elijah when they were 15 or 16 years old," Talmadge said. "They worked on the Telfair County chain gang and I know them well. They are good boys."

"If you want to get somebody who knows how to treat convicts, get somebody who has et the cake."

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

22 Prisoners Tell Of Cruel Treatment

AUG 25 1941
After hearing testimony from 22 Negro prisoners who were all jammed into one sweatbox with inside dimensions of 7 feet six inches for 11 hours, the Date County coroner's jury returned a verdict late Wednesday bitterly scoring Warden C.

A. Jacobson. The jury found that Lewis Gordon, lifer of Kingston, "came to his death by cruel and inhuman treatment by suffocation in a sweatbox by Warden C. A. Jacobson."

GOT A TIP

A prison investigator, Claude Mayne, "just luckily got a tip" that a man had died under mysterious circumstances, resulting in the inquest and subsequent investigation. According to reports, Mr. Mayne was enroute to the camp to investigate a routine matter. At Lafayette, he heard of a man's dying in a sweat box. On his way to the camp he met a hearse bearing the dead prisoner. He turned the hearse back and ordered a full investigation opened.

Sheriff H. C. Shelby, of Walker, and his son, Deputy Gene Shelby joined the party and went to the camp. Coroner J. C. Bell was summoned from nearby Trenton and empaneled a jury of farmers living near the camp.

The jurors sat in the prison yard at dusk and by lamp light and heard a succession of witnesses tell of beatings, lack of proper food and "brutish treatment." The prisoners bared their backs to show the welts they said were raised by beatings, showed scars from blows upon the head. They accused Warden Jacobson of flailing into a group of 25 "sit-downers" swinging his stick with one hand and shooting his pistol with the other. They all told the same story.

The jurors examined the sweat box, sometimes called "the hole" and "the house." They visited long barracks where prisoners sleep in large mesh wire cages. They found Tom Hardy, Fred Davis and Roy Body wounded and recuperating from pistol bullet wounds of the legs and feet, alleged inflicted during the warden's "brutish treatment." They heard Dr. S. B. Kitchens, of Lafayette, who acts as the prison doctor, say that Gordon's death might have resulted from suffocation while he was jammed with 22 others in the sweat box. The doctor told of being called to the camp shortly after midnight Wednesday morning where he found Gordon dying and without pulse beat. He examined marks on the dead man's chest, head, groin and right arm, admitting that one or two might have been fresh bruises.

According to the story of the prisoners, a group of 25 was working on the Rivers Highway "down the mountain" in Walker County, with "Walking Boss" R. M. Whitehead in charge of the gang. Sev-

eral in the group had been "called out" a few days previously to tell members of the joint penitentiary committee of treatment at the camp. Following this, the men could "do nothing right," they said. The bosses kept picking at them, saying they had let somebody "come up here and fill our heads with wind and now there wasn't nobody here to help us."

When one of the men could work no further, the boss mentioned him to be put in "the house," it was testified. Then all the rest of the men "fellout," putting their matocks and shovels aside and sitting on the bank. When Captain Jacobson returned, he and Boss Whitehead started shooting and swinging ~~AUG 25 1941~~ ~~the men~~ ~~testified~~, all stating that they were not trying to get away, only running around trying to keep from being shot. The men were put in "the house" without water and anything to eat. Later when some started suffocating and Gordon started dying, they called for help, only to be laughed at by the guards, who reportedly reminded them that they had got in there themselves and to "take it."

Among prisoners testifying were James Hightower, Willie Render, J. D. Tyree, L. M. Bialock, Tom Washington and 16-year-old Calvin Crowe.

Atlanta, Ga. Constitution
August 22, 1941

White, Negro Prison Camps Aim in State

Georgia To Lead Way in the Separation of Prisoners.

Plans to segregate Georgia's white and Negro prisoners, with separate convict camps for each race, were announced yesterday by Royal K. Mann, of the Prison and Parole Commission.

He also said that the commission would segregate the state's hardened criminals from first offenders. Some transfers among the convict camps already have been made, he said, and the whole project is scheduled for completion before Christmas.

The camp at Fayetteville will be for whites only and the one at Dawson for Negroes only, Mann said. Decisions about the other camps have not yet been reached. He estimated that about 62 per cent of the state's 8,000 convicts are Negroes.

Telegraph
Macon, Georgia

Clean-Up of State Prison Farms Ordered By Legislative Probers

ATLANTA, (AP) — Severe beatings of prisoners, inhumane use of a sweat-box and short food rations were described by a legislative committee Friday after a visit to the Rising Fawn state convict camp, where a Negro died Wednesday and a white convict was killed several weeks ago.

The legislators, in a report to the prison and parole commission, also said they had obtained "strong evidence" that a Negro prisoner at the state convict camp near Sparta had died of a severe whipping by a convict boss.

The committee recommended that the Dade county grand jury investigate the deaths of the two prisoners at the Rising Fawn camp and that an inquest be held on the death of the Negro at the Sparta camp.

Other recommendations were:

1. That the Rising Fawn camp warden, C. A. Jacobson, be suspended immediately, "and any guard responsible for this brutal treatment."

2. That Boss Alvin Johnson and Dr. E. H. Hutchings of the Sparta camp "and any other camp officials of the Sparta camp connected with this brutal treatment" be suspended immediately.

3. That Sparta Camp Warden N. A. Compton be suspended temporarily "until this matter can be cleared up."

Committee members said they planned to propose the abolition of the sweat-box as a method of punishment when they completed their investigation of state camps and filed ~~AUG 25 1941~~ ~~recommendations for revision of Georgia's~~ ~~penal program.~~

A coroner's jury held that the Negro prisoner who died at the Rising Fawn camp, Lewis Gordon, a life-terminer, had come to his death from the cruel and inhuman treatment of Jacobson.

In explaining the segregation of the races, Mann said the whites were more intelligent than the Negroes and consequently could lead them and influence them. This, he added, sometimes caused trouble. He also said the commission believed the prisoners would work better and get along better if the races were separated.

The separation of habitual criminals from first offenders, Mann said, should aid the commission's efforts to rehabilitate prisoners.

Transfer of prisoners from one camp to another, Mann said, was

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Two Slayers to Rule Ga. Prison Camps

AUG 29 1941
ATLANTA. — (ANP) — Confirmed reports circulated through the city Monday regarding Gov. Eugene Talmadge's appointment of two pardoned murderers as wardens of state highway convict camps in Coffee and Laurens counties.

The appointments were revealed while investigation of the Rising Fawn and Sparta prison camps was being made by the state prison and parole commission. The probe was in connection with the death of at least three convicts in these camps.

The two wardens, Ed and Fred Goble, had been sentenced to life imprisonment in May, 1922, for the murder of a Negro. Talmadge based his appointments on the fact that the slayers knew penal problems, and said he doubted if two better wardens could be found in the state.

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

Ex-Chauffeur Of Rivers Held, Accused Of Selling Pardons

JUL 2 1941

ATLANTA, July 1. — (AP) — An indictment accusing an ex-chauffeur of former Governor E. L. Rivers of selling pardons was made public today almost simultaneously with a Fulton County Grand Jury request that the Federal government investigate "all sources" of Rivers' income during his four-year administration.

The chauffeur, identified in the indictment as Albert Chandler, 34-year-old negro, was taken into custody at Great Neck, L. I., waived extradition and left for Atlanta with William E. Spence, an investigator of the Fulton County solicitor-general.

Mann said that so far as he knew no other southern state had accused of the sale of between 300 and 400 pardons in the closing days of Rivers' second term, the indictment, formally charging "felony," contained only two counts. Both alleged he received money "in consideration of and for attempting to influence, and for influencing," the governor in granting pardons.

The first count said Chandler got \$25 from Frank Leonard, who was sentenced to ten years' imprisonment for murder.

Spence said that the chauffeur was accused of securing 1,000 blank pardons, allegedly signed by the governor, of making hasty visits to State prisons in the last two days of December and of selling pardons to prisoners, including 25 convicted murderers, for \$25 apiece and more.

Former Governor Rivers is in Cal-

15-1941

GEORGIA

Constitution Atlanta, Georgia **Jail Population For Last Year Rises Slightly**

10,436 Persons Lodged in Fulton Tower Dur- ing 1940.

JAN 13 1941

A picture of crime in Fulton county, as reflected by the charges against the 10,436 persons lodged in Fulton tower during the year, is shown in the annual report of the bureau of identification of the Fulton county police department which was made public yesterday by Chief George Mathieson and Captain J. D. Ragsdale.

The total jail population for the year was a 3 per cent increase over the number for 1939.

"Out of the total of 10,436, 7,906 were fingerprinted on new cases. Total figures include prisoners and 2,227 on recommitment for held at the jail for the federal previous charges, representing a 1 per cent increase in the number of new cases and a 7 per cent increase in the number of recommitments," the report stated.

Increased Work.

Calling attention to the greatly increased work of the bureau caused by fingerprinting job applicants and all county high school children for civil identification, Captain Ragsdale showed also how the bureau investigated 457 burglaries, (an increase of 43 per cent over the number investigated in 1939) and how its work at the scene of crimes and accidents has been of material aid to law enforcement agencies.

Detailed reports on various types of crimes involved shows that 177 white men were charged with auto theft during the year, as compared with 54 Negro men. But for lottery, 217 Negro men were arrested and only 49 white men. The number of arrests by the county officers in both these classifications were higher in 1940 than in the previous year.

There were 39 Negro men, 21 Negro women, 14 white men and two white women charged with murder last year, the total of 76 for 1940 comparing with 88 for 1939.

White men arrested for operating cars while drunk numbered

424, with 12 white women charged with this infraction. One hundred and thirty-two Negro men were accused of this violation, but only one Negro woman was charged with operating a car while intoxicated.

Negroes arrested for violating the state liquor control act far outnumbered the whites. Records show 650 Negro men, 276 Negro women, 198 white men and 40 white women charged of handling illegal liquor.

JAN 13 1941

A curious coincidence was that 1,164 persons were charged with this offense in 1940—exactly the same number booked at the tower on the same charge in 1938. In 1939, there were 1,076 docketed for illegal whisky operations.

Approximately 75 different charges were listed in the full bureau report. In recapitulating, the jail records show there were 328 white women, 3,752 white men, 677 Negro women and 2,594 Negro men arrested during the 12-month period.

Total figures include prisoners and 2,227 on recommitment for held at the jail for the federal previous charges, representing a 1 per cent increase in the number of new cases and a 7 per cent increase in the number of recommitments," the report stated.

Telegraph

Macon, Georgia **Finding a Fat Purse**

"THE FOUND POCKETBOOK" racket is one of the oldest and most common methods used for flimflamming Negroes out of their savings. It doesn't catch as many victims as the bug racket according to reports, but gets the individual's money much faster.

The case of Eva Daniel, maid at the GSCW Mayfair dormitory in Milledgeville, is an instance. In discussing the matter, the Milledgeville police say: A man will come into town and ask some woman about Negroes who save money. One will be selected as an intended victim, and the woman will be promised a part of the amount obtained. The woman approaches the person who has money, and engages him or her in conversation. The man "happens" to pass along, and not far away he stoops and picks up a pocketbook from the sidewalk. The co-conspirator excitedly calls attention to the find. The man walks on a little distance, and comes back to ask the two others not to say anything about what they saw.

The man told Eva Daniel and the woman she was with that the purse he is supposed to have found contained six hundred dollars.

JAN 22 1941

"I'll give you thirty dollars apiece if you won't tell on me."

It was agreed. Then he went off to get the money changed, and to get advice of a "white friend." He returns and says he is warned not to spend any of the money until later, because it might arouse suspicion.

"If you'll get me a hundred dollars of your money, I'll give you two hundred dollars of my money," was proposed to Eva.

To make a hundred dollars that easily seemed a great temptation, when a whole lifetime of pinching and saving had yielded her a total bank account of only one hundred dollars. She took her hundred out of the bank, and gave it. The man and the co-conspirator got into a car and without even a "thank you," they rode away with Eva's hundred dollars. The purse was perhaps a make-believe. The woman who helped in this case seemed to be the traveling companion of the man. In some instances she is a local person who points out the victims known to have some money; and in that event the technique has to be slightly changed.

Officer Cox says two detectives from South Carolina were in Milledgeville some time ago trying to find a Negro accused in a similar way in that state.

Chief F. N. Broome says in spite of the age of the racket, victims are often found.

Constitution Atlanta, Georgia

Rules Adopted For Operating Prison Farm

Construction Chief Tells Committee More Labor Is Needed.

Fifteen new rules for operation of the city prison farm, about which a controversy has raged recently, were adopted yesterday by city council's public works and prison committee and dispatched

to Superintendent H. H. Gibson for enforcement.

The action was taken after Clarke Donaldson, chief of construction, told committee members the department must have more prison labor or he would be forced to ask \$4,600 to hire men to do the work which should be done by prisoners.

JAN 17 1941

Chief among the rules was one providing that all available white and Negro men must be detailed to the construction department. This was approved after Donaldson said his department needed 140 men a day and that it averaged getting only 60 a day last year.

Among other new regulations are white women prisoners must remain in their quarters at all times; city property must remain on city-owned property; all work done by the city must be on city property; all city property now on privately owned property must be moved to city-owned property immediately; no city property may be loaned, exchanged or sold without council consent; no one but occasional state, county or city officials are to be dined at the prison farm; prisoners' sentences cannot be terminated except by properly filled-out papers signed by the recorder who presided at the trial and the mayor; money in escrow for completion of the new building must be expended only as permitted by the DeKalb county superior courts; the chairman of the prison and public works committee (Councilman George B. Lyle) shall have supervisory authority over the farm during recess of the committee.

Officer Cox says two detectives from South Carolina were in Milledgeville some time ago trying to find a Negro accused in a similar way in that state.

Chief F. N. Broome says in spite of the age of the racket, victims are often found.

Constitution Atlanta, Georgia

Negro Near Death From Gun Wound

Oscar Lee Willys, listed by police as a 29-year-old Negro of Tracy's lane, was in critical condition at the Macon hospital last night from a gunshot wound.

Police Lieutenant Charles Ryle and Officer D. W. Wheaton picked up a Negro booked as Willie Lee Brown, also of Tracy's lane, in connection with the shooting.

Willys was shot in the back, the officers reported. The bullet passed through his abdomen. He underwent an emergency operation at the hospital last night.

Constitution Atlanta, Georgia

Rector Lee's Slayer Goes to Tattnall Prison

Killer Transferred After Serving Two Years in Glynn County.

BRUNSWICK, Ga., Jan. 9.—After spending more than two years in the Glynn county jail, George Clayborn, Negro convicted of the murder of the Rev. Charles H. Lee, rector of Christ church, Frederica, St. Simons Island, has been sent to the state prison at Reidsville to serve a life sentence. Clayborn was convicted in Glynn superior court two years ago.

Constitution Atlanta, Georgia

Death Sentence Given 4th Time

LOUISVILLE, Ga., Jan. 4.—(AP) Leroy Morton, Augusta Negro, was sentenced to death for the fourth time here today for the slaying of Deputy Sheriff Louis Hubbard, of Louisville, in 1939.

Judge R. N. Hardeman resentenced the prisoner after he had been turned over to the warden at the Tattnall state prison by federal officers on orders of the federal court at Augusta.

United States District Judge William H. Bartlett recently denied a habeas corpus petition on behalf of the Negro, in which his attorneys claimed their client was deprived of his rights when a verdict of guilty was returned without benefit of counsel.

Morton had won twice before on appeals.

Deputy Hubbard was slain during a raid on a whisky still. The Negro claimed self-defense in the shooting.

Bill Robinson Aids Negro Boy Who Fled Georgia Chain Gang

FEB 4 1941

'Biggest Man in Harlem' Goes Bail

Judge Helps Fight Extradition

There were 20 persons in Magistrate Charles Solomon's chambers in Brooklyn's Pennsylvania Ave. Court today and there were sympathy and understanding in their smiling faces.

When Jay Gould Cotton, 15-year-old Negro, walked in and faced them he looked as if he couldn't believe until final disposition of the case.

Magistrate Solomon told Cotton to behave himself meanwhile, saying:

FEB 4 1941

"Every colored boy in the United States is standing on the spot offered upon us by the choice of where you now stand. If you don't make good, it will be harder for every colored boy in this country, particularly those in the South."

The United Press reported that Gov. Talmadge of Georgia had issued an extraordinary warrant for the boy. Georgia officials said he was 17, not 15, and declared Chatam prison camp, from which he escaped, was one of the model camps of the state.

"Ever heard of Bill Robinson?" Magistrate Solomon asked the boy. "Yes, sir," he said with a reverent politeness.

"Who is he?" the magistrate said.

"He's the biggest man in Harlem," said Cotton, rolling out the word "biggest" with a magnificent awe. "I've heard that all over. Down in Florida, in Georgia, here, everywhere. That's what I've heard."

"Would you like to meet Bill Robinson?" asked the magistrate. "I'd be proud to," said the boy, as one would say sure he'd take one million dollars if it was handed to him.

A chuckling gay faced man stood up in the Magistrate's chambers. Cotton's eyes popped wide. It was Bill Robinson, Bojangles, the incomparable dancer, Harlem's biggest man himself. Cotton had the high privilege of actually shaking hands with Bill Robinson in person.

Magistrate Solomon told the boy he would renew his plea to Gov. Lehman not to sign extradition papers to return him to Georgia until an investigation had been completed. Walter White, executive secretary of the Association for the Advancement of Colored People, sent him word he would go to Washington and seek audience of President Roosevelt in his behalf, if it were necessary.

Bill Robinson provided the fee for the \$1500 bail bond set by Magistrate Solomon, who adjourned the hearing until Feb. 19. Lennie L. George, Negro attorney assigned to defend Cotton, promised to shelter and feed him at the Negro Y. M. C. A. in Brooklyn.

"We are cognizant of the fact that the destruction of one-tenth

of the camp might mean the destruction of the whole camp. Disease is no respector of race.

"Therefore we want to offer our services to the city and camp authorities in whatever way we can help them. We feel certain that the highest, noblest and best camp morality cannot be developed by only developing the racial majority, at the exclusion of the racial minority, but only by a rounded program for all concerned.

"Our pastors, officers, members and churches will be glad to co-operate with whatever facilities at our command in the well-being of the men who will be in our midst.

"We are very jealous of our place as Christian leaders con-

cerned. We will not willingly relinquish that place to any individual or organization. We therefore appeal to you to allow us to help you develop a wholesome, Christian attitude at Camp

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Marion Ga. Telegram
February 13, 1941

Negro Pastors Pledge Help In Clean-Up

In an "open letter" resolution addressed to the mayor of Macon and Major W. P. Kennard, Camp Wheeler constructing quartermaster, Negro pastors of the city yesterday offered their services in developing a "wholesome, Christian attitude" at the camp.

The action was taken in connection with recent appeals of Major Kennard for a clean-up of vice in the city and development of an all-around recreation program for the trainees due to arrive at the camp soon. Several hundred of the more than 15,000 are to be Negroes.

The resolution adopted unanimously following its presentation by the Rev. R. Waite Stennett, Washington avenue Presbyterian church pastor, was as follows: "We the ministers of the Evangelical Union of Macon feel keenly the moral responsibility which is ours to help in the spiritual guidance of the colored draftees coming to Camp Wheeler.

"We are cognizant of the fact that the destruction of one-tenth

Telegraph
Macon, Georgia
Negro Man Jailed

After Wild Rampage

A Negro who ran amuck in a Fifth street cafe, stabbed two Negroes and shot a Negro man and woman, was in jail yesterday according to Deputy Sheriff O. R. Stokes, who arrested him.

The Negro was listed on county records as Ellis Williams, 38 Bay street.

ially attacked in bitter resentment of the inhuman treatment to prisoners who were helpless to defend themselves.

Atlanta Ga Constitution
March 21, 1941

County Reinstates Veteran Employee

Arthur Atkinson, county employee who was dismissed a month ago for fighting with another employee, has been reinstated by the Fulton county commission and placed on a special pension list at \$50 per month, it was learned yesterday. He had been working for the county for nearly 17 years.

Atkinson was reinstated on the recommendation of E. J. Waits, superintendent of the Negro Industrial farm, where the reported fight with C. A. King took place on February 4.

A former county policeman, Atkinson was found guilty January 13, 1932, of manslaughter and sentenced to serve from 15 to 20 years for the slaying of J. E. Hooks, but was pardoned on May 23, 1935, records reveal.

Atkinson was returned to the county pay roll on May 1, 1936, at a salary of \$115 a month. His pension will be paid from county funds and not from the regular employees' pension fund, it was learned.

Dothan, Ala. Eagle
August 22, 1941

Georgia To Observe Prisoner Color Line

MAR 15 1941 By J. C. CHUNN

ATLANTA, Ga., March 13.—Representative Marvin Allison of Gwinnett county, which embraces Covington, Ga., threw a bombshell in the Lower House here last Thursday when he asked for a special investigation of alleged mistreatment of Henry Woodward, a Negro prisoner after he and a committee of legislators visited the Tatnall Prison at Tatnall, Ga., last week-end. Representative Allison found Henry Woodward, the prisoner confined to a hospital with his feet frozen. He was taken to the Tatnall prison for treatment.

At the time of their visit at the Tatnall Prison, Mr. Allison said that the legislators were informed by the prisoner that on a minor charge of disobedience he was ordered by the warden to be placed in the "Dog House," or "Hole," on Monday morning, the early part of January, 1941, and kept there without heat, or sufficient clothing to keep warm, only bread and water for food, until the following Saturday night. It is believed that the prisoner may lose both of his feet because of this inhuman treatment that he suffered at the prison camp where he was confined.

SEEK COMMITTEE
INVESTIGATION MAR 15 1941

The Atlanta Constitution editor

ATLANTA (AP) — Georgia is going to try segregation of white and Negro prisoners as a step toward solution of its penal problems.

Royal K. Mann of the State Prison and Parole Commission announced this plan yesterday and said also that hardened felons would be confined separately from first offenders.

The commissioner said he knew of no other Southern State that had tried segregating its white and Negro convicts. He said some transfers toward carrying out the project, scheduled for completion before Christmas, already have been made in Georgia.

About 62 per cent of the State's 8,000 convicts are Negroes, he said.

The separation plan will apply to the 88 county camps, the 13 State highway camps and the men and women's prisons at Reidsville, Ga.

He said the camp at Fayetteville will be for white convicts and one at Dawson for Negroes. Decisions have not been made yet regarding other camps.

The commission believes the prisoners will get along better and

better if the races are separated, he said, and the separation of habitual criminals from first offenders should help efforts toward rehabilitation.

15-1941

Macon Ga. Telegraph
January 30, 1941

Justice to the Negro

Members from DeKalb county have joined the Bibb delegation in sponsoring a bill which would authorize and enable the department of public welfare to begin operation of the Negro division of the Georgia Training School for Girls, located at Macon.

It is only natural that the colored population of Georgia should feel very strongly on the subject of the neglect this institution has suffered. Among themselves they painfully got together their nickels and dimes as a nucleus with which to provide a school in which delinquent Negro girls could be given a chance to redeem themselves and become useful members of society. The white division of the training school, located near Atlanta, has been a great success, but after the present buildings were erected near Macon and the institution was taken over by the state, the plant was given over to the owls and bats.

Common justice to the Negro demands that the training school at Macon should be put into use as soon as possible.

Kinston, N.C., Feb. 5, 1941
February 5, 1941

Indicting A Section

Governor Eugene Talmadge of Georgia has requested the extradition of Jay Gould Cotton, 15-year-old Negro, who escaped from a Georgia prison camp and is held in New York.

Cotton, who was arraigned in the court presided over by Magistrate Charles Solomon of Brooklyn is reputed to have said that he would "rather die" than return to the Georgia prison camp.

The magistrate is quoted as saying:

"This is no ordinary case in that it dramatically presents the question of justice to the Negro in the South. The social aspects of the case far transcend the legal phases."

Magistrate Solomon takes in entirely too much territory. He has no foundation for indicting the entire South because of the allegation made against a prison or chain-gang system in one of the southern states. There has been considerable complaint of alleged barbarous and inhumane treatment accorded prisoners, both white and black, under the Georgia system. Some ex-convicts and escapees have written books on the subject, which have been the occasion of considerable consternation and

GEORGIA

some or them, we believe, have been dramatized. But if the Georgia abuses are as charged, they are not typical of the South and Magistrate Solomon, or any other local jurist in the North, does violence to truth and justice to indict the whole section.

As a matter of fact, remarkable progress has been made in the penal system and procedure in the South. While occasionally charges are made of race discrimination in the courts, most of these allegations are, we believe, false and the mental fabrications of agitators and ultra-reformers. Rarely are such charges made against any courts or tribunals in North Carolina and none that we recall, which have been justified in recent years.

It behooves Magistrate Solomon to exhibit some of the wisdom, synonymous and traditional with the name he bears.

Telegraph
Macon, Georgia

Jury Convicts Negro Tried In Absentia'

FEB 21 1941

Willie Gene Collins, Macon Negro, went to court yesterday to hear himself tried on a robbery charge, but apparently he didn't like what he heard.

When court convened after the noon recess the defendant was missing.

Meanwhile, Lloyd Reid, Macon Negro preacher, reported to detectives that Collins had robbed him of \$10 in cash and a light gray overcoat. He said he stopped to give the culprit a ride near the city limits but Collins pulled a gun and forced him to drive almost to Wesleyan, where the car gave out of gas. He then fled, taking the coat and cash with him.

Court attendants said Willie Gene came back all right and was on hand 15 minutes before his trial was to be resumed. But it seems, they said, that he encountered a surprise state's witness in the hall as he was going to the courtroom.

FEB 21 1941

He was last seen moving at a dead run for the doorway, but his absence did not interfere with the trial. By the time the jury had returned its verdict, county officers had located the missing man.

The jury found him guilty, which he probably disliked as the testimony he heard. He was charged with complicity in the

robbery on a Negro locomotive fireman who lost a watch and \$60 to three hold-up men. The jurors recommended mercy.

Officer Millirons is still under treatment for his injuries but Officer Wheaton has returned to duty.

Judge A. M. Anderson withheld his decision as to whether he would act on the jury's recommendation.

Telegraph
Macon, Georgia

Negro Driver Being Held In Fatal Crash

FEB 1 1941

A man listed as Cornelius Mitchell, 21, Negro of 68 Spring street, was held in city barracks last night in connection with an auto-dairy truck crash which killed another Negro early Thursday morning.

Detectives FEB 1 1941 and G. C. Britt arrested Mitchell near his home yesterday afternoon.

Officer Newman said Mitchell was the driver of a stolen auto which crashed into a truck on which Fred Duhart, 20, delivery boy, was riding. A coroner's jury yesterday afternoon found the boy's death was an involuntary manslaughter in the commission of an unlawful act.

Mitchell was being held on an open charge, but Detective Newman said he will be charged with larceny of an auto and with manslaughter.

The accident occurred at 5 a.m. Thursday at Mulberry and Second streets. Mitchell was driving a car that had been taken from a Mulberry street hotel.

Constitution Atlanta, Georgia

Pistol Is Stolen In City Jail Here

Telegraph
Macon Negro
Found Guilty
In Shooting

FEB 1 1941

A superior court jury yesterday found Hubert Lavender, Macon Negro charged with shooting two city policemen, guilty of assault with intent to murder.

The jury fixed punishment at from three to five years in the penitentiary but also recommended mercy leaving the judge the alternative of sentencing Lavender for a misdemeanor.

Officers A. J. Millirons and D. W. Wheaton charged that the Negro fired on them with a shotgun at the end of a chase in which the officers sought to stop Lavender's car to search it for whisky.

Officer Millirons is still under treatment for his injuries but Officer Wheaton has returned to duty.

Judge A. M. Anderson withheld his decision as to whether he would act on the jury's recommendation.

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

PREFERS GA. OVER JERSEY

MAR 29 1941

Fugitive From North Begs To Be Kept In South, Freed

(Special to the Star-News)

CAIRO, Ga.—This historic little southwest Georgia town figuratively laughed up its sleeve at New Jersey this week following the release of 19-year-old Morris Jones who escaped recently from the N. J. Reformatory at Jamesburg.

MAR 29 1941

Jones asked Deputy Sheriff H. P. Pritchett, of Cairo, to keep him in jail here instead of sending him back to New Jersey. "Please," he is quoted as saying, "don't send me back there. Put some sort of charge against me and let me serve the time here."

After communicating with the Jersey reform school officials, Sheriff Pritchett let Jones go free. Local citizens recalled the case of Robert Elliott Burns, author of "I Am a Fugitive From a Georgia Chain Gang," who was saved from spending more time on a chain gang by New Jersey's then Governor A. Harry Moore.

Lawmaker Thinks Lash More Humane For Ga. Chain Gang

MAR 15 1941

Georgia Legislator Would Revise Use of Whipping Post to Punish Prisoner In Place of "Doghouse" and "Hole" Now In Use—Bill Not Expected To Pass.

ATLANTA, Ga., Mar. 13—Representative H. B. Smith, of Barrow County, announced Thursday that he would introduce a bill restoring the lash to the Georgia penal system. The lash has been abolished in Georgia for many years, and such a bill as presented by Representative Smith evidently turned the stomachs of all decent Georgians.

Smith's bill provides that a prison and parole commission shall have the authority to appoint or designate a whipping boss at each convict camp to administer whippings to convicts. This would replace the present system of placing them in "doghouses" or "holes."

The Barrow County representative, who has ten years' experience as a warden, said he was prompted to introduce the bill because of the present inhumane treatment of convicts.

Representative Smith further commented: "I am inclined to think that whipping probably is more humane than putting a prisoner in a small place where he can't stand up or lie down, or subjecting him to the heat and cold with only bread and water for food."

"Circumstances are bad in some of those isolated places where inspectors can't come. Why I've seen some things that are almost unbelievable."

The introduction of this bill came on the heel of a resolution passed by the General Assembly late Thursday afternoon to investigate the inhumane treatment of Henry Woodward, a prisoner at Tatnall Prison Hospital with frozen feet.

It is doubtful if such a bill will be passed by the State Legislators in this section as the religious and better elements of whites are bitter in their resentment for such a weapon to be held over prisoners in the State penal system.

MAR 15 1941

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Death Penalty for Poisoners

Four middle Georgia Negroes have died in the past two weeks as the result of drinking poisonous liquor.

So long as the public refuses to co-operate, local authorities are helpless to absolutely prohibit the sale of bootleg whiskey. And the public, strange tho it seems in the light of the fatalities being suffered, goes unconcernedly on its way, thus enabling bootleggers to poison more.

Georgia has legal whisky. For their own sake, people should beware of bootleg.

And to protect those fools who haven't enough sense to keep away from it, the death penalty should be asked for the first bootlegger caught selling poison whisky.

After all, they're killing their victims just as surely as if with a gun.

pensioned must be 60 years of age, must have been with the county 25 years, of which 5 years of this service must be continuous before receiving the pension.

County officials listed Atkinson's age as 55 years old.

A check of his service record showed that he had been with the county 16 years and five months.

The commission then made his recommendation the order of the board and set his pension at \$50 a month.

Commission records show that Mr. Atkinson became a county policeman in July, 1918, and served until February 12, 1930, when he resigned. Records do not indicate the reason for his resignation. However, during this time he was suspended once for 10 days as the result of an auto accident in East Point.

He was reappointed June 4, 1930, and assigned to the Health Department as a sanitary officer, but was dismissed in September of that same year for conduct unbecoming an officer.

Manslaughter Sentence

On August 25, 1931, he was indicted for the murder of J. E. Hooks and found guilty January 13, 1932, and sentenced to serve for from 15 to 20 years for voluntary manslaughter.

State prison and parole records show that he was pardoned May 23, 1935.

Mr. Atkinson returned to the county pay roll May 1, 1936. The commissioner's record book shows that at the June 3 meeting of the board, Commissioner J. A. Ragsdale reported that he had placed

Mr. Arthur Atkinson on the pay roll of the Negro Industrial Farm at a salary of \$115 per month.

Eastman Officer Shoots Macon Negro

EASTMAN, May 6—L. J. Penix, Macon Negro, was shot Sunday morning here by Policeman C. E. Lancaster. Chief H. J. Harrell reports that the Negro, with three others, drove up to a filling station and Policeman Dave Higginbotham went over to investigate "some loud talk."

Upon approaching the car, the Negro pulled out a 10-inch pocketknife and attempted to attack Policeman Higginbotham, the officer reported. Policeman Lancaster ran up and fired a shot into the Negro to stop him.

The Negro was charged with being drunk. It was reported he would recover.

COUNTY BOARD REINSTATES ATKINSON

Employe Dismissed After Altercation Put on Pension List

A county employee with less than 17 years employment who only a month ago was dismissed for fighting with another employee has been reinstated by the Fulton County Commission and placed on a special county pension list at \$50 a month, it was revealed Thursday.

The employee, Arthur Atkinson, was re-employed at a special session of the board Monday on the recommendation of E. J. Waits, superintendent of the Negro industrial farm, and immediately granted a pension, commission records show.

Atkinson, a former county policeman, was dismissed by the board at a special session February 11 when Mr. Waits reported that Atkinson and C. A. King, another employee, had engaged in a fight at the institution February 4.

In recommending dismissal of both men, Mr. Waits wrote the commission, "their services are no longer needed."

Reverses Position

At Monday's session of the board, Mr. Waits in a letter dated March 17, wrote: "After making a thorough investigation of the long tenure of Mr. Arthur Atkinson I wish to recommend that he be returned to work and immediately placed on a special pension salary list. I think this would be fair to Mr. Atkinson in view of his long service."

Atkinson's pension will be paid from county funds and not from the regular employes pension fund, it was pointed out.

County employes and the county contribute to the regular pension fund. They do not contribute to the special fund.

Must Be 60

Under provisions of the regular employes pension fund, those being

15-1941

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia



UNUSUAL "PASSENGERS": The sharp eyes of Chief of Police Cannington, of Donalsonville, spied this automobile passing through the city, and when he halted the driver, a Negro man, he discovered the rear seat had been removed and the two "passengers" in the rear of the car proved to be a full-grown cow and a calf with their heads wrapped in burlap, but protruding outside the car. The Negro admitted obtaining the animals in Mitchell county, and after questioning by Chief Cannington, Sheriff Chandler and State Highway Patrol members, the Negro, the automobile and the cows were turned over to Mitchell county authorities, who are seeking to have the animals identified.

Telegraph
Macon, Georgia

Negro Confesses Burglaries; Grand Jury Indicts Four

County officers yesterday arrested Andrew Harris, Stinsonville Negro, on burglary charges growing out of thefts from the offices of Clark Memorials Inc., and Bill Scott's garage on McSyth road before dawn yesterday.

cash a spurious ~~1941~~ when he was apprehended, the deputy said. The Negro confessed the burglaries, the officer reported.

Telegraph
Macon, Georgia

Pistol Charges Bring Longer Sentences Than Manslaughter

Albert Barnes, Macon Negro, got off with a one year prison term from superior court for shooting another Negro to death only to draw terms totaling two years on misdemeanor charges in city court yesterday.

Barnes was charged with carrying a pistol concealed and without a license and was convicted on both charges. Judge Cecil A. Baldwin sentenced him to 12 months in each case, the terms to run consecutively and to follow a one year term imposed in superior court following his conviction of manslaughter.

Edward Boyle, a white man, drew 12 months after a jury found him guilty of carrying a pistol illegally. Another jury found Fran Wright, a Negro, guilty of a simple larceny charge and Judge Baldwin sentenced him to 12 months ~~on probation~~ and a fine of \$25.

Trial of Elsie Shanks, Macon Negress, on a charge of receiving stolen goods, will be concluded this morning.

JUN 1 1941

GEORGIA

ATLANTA JUN 1 1941

Robert Teal, Macon Negro, drew prison terms totaling four years in city court yesterday following conviction on simple larceny charges.

Judge Cecil A. Baldwin ordered him to serve 12 months on each of four counts in an accusation, the terms to run concurrently.

A jury acquitted another Negro, Anthony Dawson, of a charge of violating alcohol control laws. The trial of Albert Barnes, also a Negro, on charges of carrying a pistol illegally will be concluded this morning.

JUN 1 1941

The city court charges grew out of a shooting affray which brought Barnes a one-year term from superior court following his conviction on manslaughter charges.

Telegraph
Macon, Georgia

Negro 'Legger Asks Sentence And Gets It

Half the world may be fighting for freedom but that doesn't impress Dock Sutton, McIntyre Negro.

Arrested for selling moonshine whisky, Dock, who is completely disabled pleaded guilty before District Judge Bascom S. Deaver here yesterday. After promising to abandon his illicit trade the Negro drew a two-year probation term and by all established standards should have been pretty well pleased.

Telegraph
Macon, Georgia

Negro Draws Four Sentences In City Court Convictions

Not Dock. He asked that his case be reconsidered. His request was granted and the judge changed the sentence to a year and a day in the penitentiary.

Dock explained that, by promising to abandon the whisky business, he had cut off his only means of livelihood. He told the judge that he preferred the security of the federal prison than possibility that he might spend cold and hungry winter without funds.

Others who entered guilty pleas and were sentenced were: Curtis Wheeler, attempted sodomy, 18 months; Theodore Lemon, illegally peeping and eavesdropping, four months; Willie Brown, simple assault, six months and \$600; Charlie Howard two months, and Ethel Cooper, two years on probation for stealing a letter from the mail; Thomas Keeton, a year and a day for transporting a stolen automobile in interstate commerce; Willie Shows, a year and a day, for forging and cashing a government check; Eugene D. Howell, six months for forging a government check; Gilbert Montelius, a year and a day for transporting a stolen auto in interstate commerce; Harvey Bowman, two years probation for stealing a government check.

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois
**HOLD CHAUFFEUR
OF EX-GOVERNOR
FOR PARDON SALE**

Atlanta, Ga., July 1 (P).—Arrest of an ex-chauffeur of former Gov. E. D. Rivers on charges of selling 300 to 400 pardons was disclosed today shortly after the Fulton [Atlanta] county grand jury had called on the federal government to investigate Rivers' income.

William Spence, an investigator for the Fulton solicitor general, reported that he had arrested Albert Chandler, 34 year old Negro, at Great Neck, N. Y.

Spence said that two indictments accused Chandler of obtaining 1,000 blank pardons, signed by Rivers, and peddling them from prison to prison throughout Georgia during Rivers' final 48 hours in office last December. He said the Negro was accused of selling a safeguard the constitutional rights of my client I must call attention to the discrepancy in our jury box system."

The United States supreme court has held that Negroes must be included in jury boxes.

Shannon also brought out that women have not as yet been placed in his county's jury box, despite action of the last general assembly extending them the right to jury service.

Shannon indicated he would carry the case to the state supreme court.

Cornelius was convicted of slaying his father.

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia
Jeffersonville Negro

Is Denied New Trial

Special to THE CONSTITUTION.
DUBLIN, Ga., July 1.—Superior Judge R. Earl Camp today denied a new trial to Frank Cornelius, Jeffersonville Negro, under sentence of death, despite contentions of his counsel that Negroes are excluded from the jury box in Twiggs county.

Cornelius was convicted of slaying his father. Following Judge Camp's denial of the plea, J. D. Shannon, the Negro's attorney, indicated he would carry the case to the state supreme court.

The gun was identified as city property issued to W. H. Dodd, retired Atlanta police officer, of 918 Lakewood way, now employed as special officer by Peters street merchants. Dodd said the gun was taken from him on the morning of July 4 when four Negroes attacked him near his home.

Lewis was charged with suspi-

cion. According to witnesses of the assault on Dodd, the four Negroes were wearing prison garb.

Telegraph
Macon, Georgia

**Negro Loses
Plea on Jury**

[Special to The Telegraph]

DUBLIN, July 3 — Superior Judge R. Earl Camp Thursday denied a new trial to Frank Cornelius, Jeffersonville Negro, under sentence of death, despite contentions of his counsel that Negroes are excluded from the jury box in Twiggs county.

In raising the issue, J. D. Shannon, the Negro's attorney, told the court:

"I know that in doing this I am violating one of the most sacred traditions, but to safeguard the constitutional rights of my client I must call attention to the discrepancy in our jury box system."

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Telegraph
Macon, Georgia
Light on Pardon Racket

Arrest of Albert Chandler, who served as Negro chauffeur for Governor Rivers during his term of office, on a charge of selling pardons which had been signed in blank by the chief executive, brings into the open the grave attacks which have been made for months on the former governor as being a party to a pardon racket.

The Fulton county grand jury, which handed down indictments against Chandler and caused his arrest in Long Island, has also called on the proper federal agencies to investigate the Governor's source of income during his two terms of office.

Ex-Governor Rivers, who is now in California, should return home promptly and demand that these charges shall be sifted to the bottom. The state of Georgia is entitled to know the facts.

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

**GEORGIA ASKS HELP
IN 'PARDON RACKET'**

Grand Jury Urges a Federal Inquiry Into Income of Former Governor Rivers

HIS CHAUFFEUR ARRESTED
Accused of 'Peddling' Papers
Signed in Advance—Authority Was Delegated

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES
ATLANTA, Ga., July 1—Declaring that substantial evidence of a "State pardon racket" had been uncovered, the Fulton County (Atlanta) grand jury appealed to the Federal Government today to conduct an investigation into all sources of income of former Governor E. D. Rivers during his 1939-40 term of office.

At the same time John A. Boykin, County Sheriff General, announced the arrest in Mineola, N. Y., of Albert Chandler, Negro, former chauffeur of Governor Rivers. Chandler is under indictment on two felony charges of peddling pardons.

Special presentments of the grand jury charged that "pardon brokers" and past and present members of the General Assembly

obtained Rivers pardons "without so much as a scratch of the pen" and that in many cases pardons were issued in direct violation of Constitutional provisions governing clemency.

Former Governor Rivers is in Los Angeles.

After reciting a part of the history of the alleged pardon racket, the jurors also recommended that "every grand jury in Georgia start an immediate investigation to uncover what is behind this pardon racket, who is promoting it and the motive."

The presentments described some statements of reasons for clemency contained in many Rivers pardons as "pure fabrications" and said that many others were issued while the Governor was out of the State, this being done by delegating authority to the executive secretary.

In numerous cases, the jurors alleged, pardons were granted when there was no notice and the community and interested persons had no opportunity to appear, "when the word of scheming pardon brokers was accepted in lieu of evidence."

The presentments declared that it had been found that Governor Rivers's former chauffeur "frequently went to prison camps with pardons already signed and asked to see prisoners whom he did not know and who did not know him."

The presentments asserted further that "the public knows that the secretary of ex-Governor Rivers stayed at the Capitol very long hours grinding out pardons."

Informed of the demand for an inquiry into Governor Rivers's income, an official of the Federal Department of Internal Revenue declared that the matter would have "appropriate attention."

He added that if the grand jury evidence seemed to warrant an investigation, the local intelligence office of the Internal Revenue Department would recommend to Washington that an inquiry be made.

Chandler was indicted Friday, but the grand jury withheld announcement of its action until officers could find him. He was trailed to Great Neck, L. I., through his selective service registration.

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia
**White, Negro
Prison Camps
Aim in State**

Georgia To Lead Way in
the Separation of
Prisoners.

Plans to segregate Georgia's white and Negro prisoners, with separate convict camps for each race, were announced yesterday by Royal K. Mann, of the Prison and Parole Commission.

He also said that the commission would segregate the state's hardened criminals from first offenders. Some transfers among the convict camps already have been made, he said, and the whole project is scheduled for completion before Christmas.

The camp at Fayetteville will be for whites only and the one at Dawson for Negroes only, Mann said. Decisions about the other camps have not yet been reached. He estimated that about 62 per cent of the state's 8,000 convicts are Negroes.

In explaining the segregation of the races, Mann said the whites were more intelligent than the Negroes and consequently could lead them and influence them.

This, he added, sometimes caused trouble. He also said the commission believed the prisoners would work better and get along better if the races were separated.

The separation of habitual criminals from first offenders, Mann said, should aid the commission's efforts to rehabilitate prisoners.

Transfer of prisoners from one camp to another, Mann said, was a slow process because the records of the prisoners had to be investigated and because men fitted to carry the work at each camp had to be found. For example, if a tractor driver were shifted from one camp to another, another had to be found to take his place.

Mann said that so far as he knew no other southern state had yet attempted to separate its white and Negro prisoners, but he predicted others probably would do so in the future.

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GEORGIA

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia
Arrested Negro Carries

7 Pistols, Wears Knucks

Police in Longview, Tex., probably would have been more careful in arresting a 23-year-old Negro had they known that the man was armed with seven .38 and .35 caliber pistols and a pair of knucks.

The arsenal was distributed completely around the Negro and pistols were available from any angle. He wore the knucks.

Police said they believed the man carried more guns than any other person arrested here, including the bad men.

Telegraph

Macon, Georgia

Tables Turn;

Man's in Jail

A reluctant prosecutor who refused to testify against a Negress after having her a bed or disorderly conduct found the tables turned at recorder's court yesterday.

Clifford Toomer, the Negro prosecutor, decided after having Georgia Toomer, 40, of 532 Clayton street arrested, that he had made a mistake. Georgia went free but Recorder George M. Nottingham held the prosecutor in contempt of court and ordered him to spend 21 days in the stockade.

The recorder dismissed a charge of violating the Sunday closing law on which Ralph Bobo of 421 Forest avenue had been arrested. M. L. Hendricks, 319 Dannenberg avenue, was bound over to city court on a \$100 bond for carrying a pistol illegally and a hearing on charges of violating rules of the road lodged against S. S. Griswell, 55, was continued until Wednesday.

Continued until next Monday was a case in which Joseph Mathews, 24-year-old Negro is charged with driving without brakes and violating the city light ordinance.

Commercial Appeal
Memphis, Tennessee

Convicts In Georgia

Get Eight-Hour Day

FEB 7 1941

ATLANTA, Feb. 6.—(AP)—Convicts who labor from "sun up to sundown" in most Georgia prison camps, got an eight hour day in Fulton (Atlanta) County Thursday.

The shorter day for 1200 prisoners came by indirection when guards were placed in the eight-hour division of county employees.

So, eight hours for the guards means the same for the guarded,

said Commissioner Charles R. Adams.

A bill pending in the Georgia House of Representatives would limit to 10 hours a day the work schedule of all convicts, state and county.

Telegraph
Macon, Georgia

'Flim-Flam'

Game No Fun,
FEB 11 1941
Negress Finds

WADLEY, Feb. 10—The "flim-flam" game is no respecter of persons nor localities as Eliza Tolliver, Negress, of East Wadley, can testify.

While Eliza was washing clothes in the backyard of her home a gypsy-like woman appeared,

asking to tell her fortune. Against her will Eliza went in the house and placed her hand in a

Bible which the intruder opened.

Then she brought a glass of water and breathed in it at the stranger's command, still protesting she had no money and wanted no fortune told.

The woman left and returned later with her partner who looked over the situation and pronounced it O.K.

When Eliza's husband returned that night he told of several Negroes in the community who had been robbed. Reaching suddenly for the bag of money tied around her waist, Eliza found it stuffed with paper and the eighteen dollars it contained, gone.

Whether she was hypnotized, or how the money vanished, she has never known.

Argus

St. Louis, Missouri

FIGHT TO SAVE BOY, 15

FEB 7 - 1941

FROM GA. PRISON CAMP

Youth Who Escaped from Labor Camp and Hitch

Hiked to New York Charged With \$50 Theft

NEW YORK, Feb. 5.—Citing the horrors of the Georgia prison camps and harsh justice for Negroes, a plea was made Monday to stop the extradition of Jay Gould Cotton, 15-year-old schoolboy. Cotton faces return to a Georgia labor gang on a charge of a \$50 robbery. A ray of hope was given Monday when Magistrate Charles Solomon of Brooklyn offered a helping hand to the youth, who is being held as a fugitive.

After learning that the boy's age was 15 and not 16 as listed in the court papers Magistrate Solomon telephoned to Governor Lehman's office in Albany and asked that extradition papers be held in abeyance until all circumstances of the case were learned. Meanwhile he appointed Lennie L. George, colored attorney, to represent the defendant and ordered a hearing on the case today.

The boy escaped from the labor camp and hitch-hiked to Brooklyn, where he has been working as a janitor's assistant.

Telegraph
Macon, Georgia

Negroes Are Shot
In Dodge County

EASTMAN, Jan. 29—One Negro is in critical condition in an Eastman hospital, and another is slowly recovering as a result of week-end shootings in Dodge county.

Charlie Burton of Rhine was shot three times with a pistol in a fight at Rhine Saturday night. He developed pneumonia after reaching the hospital. Ed Wilcox is in Dodge county jail charged with attempt to murder him in a quarrel over a gambling debt.

Lucius Hart, Negro semi-invalid of the Congo settlement near Eastman, shot Claude Gay with a shotgun while Gay was quar-

GEORGIA CONSTITUTION

February 25, 1941

Negro Student Shot

As He Flees Bandit

While fleeing from a bandit last night, Aaron Scott, Negro student at the Gammon Theological Seminary, on Ridge avenue, sustained a bullet wound in the left side.

The Negro, admitted to Grady hospital in a critical condition, told police he was on the campus when accosted by an armed Negro who tried to rob him. When he turned to flee, Scott said, the armed Negro shot him.

Telegraph

Macon, Georgia

Negro Blackjack

APR 29 1941

Gray Postmaster

GRAY, April 28—Postmaster T. S. Lancaster of Gray was under treatment today for a head injury suffered, he told Jones county officers, when a Negro struck him with a black-jack shortly before dawn.

Mr. Lancaster told officers he got out of his bed shortly after 4 a.m. to investigate an automobile crash near his home about two miles east of here. When he attempted to inquire about the accident a Negro man cursed him. The postmaster said, whereupon he struck the Negro with a lantern he was carrying. The Negro snatched a black-jack from his pocket and struck Mr. Lancaster in the head, knocking him unconscious.

County officers arrested several Negroes alleged to have been on the scene at the time but their names were not available. The postmaster's injuries were not serious.

APR 29 1941

According to the confessions, the two white men went to the service station at 368 Whitehall Street last Friday morning and opened up for business.

Feathers said he allowed Cowan to hit him on the head with a bag of change. Feathers said Cowan struck him three times in an effort to knock him out to make it appear as if an outsider had committed the crime.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

OHIO MAN SAVED FROM CHAIN GANG

MAR 15 1941

HARTWELL, Ga., Mar. 13—A 16-month investigation and his persistent charge of "frame-up" has finally won freedom for William G. Wilson and secured his release from the dreaded Georgia chain gang. He was freed under a writ of habeas corpus granted by the Hart County Court last week.

Wilson was arrested in Cleveland, O., in March, 1938, on information furnished police that he was Ike Hudson, an escaped convict from the Georgia penal authorities. It appeared that their was a strong resemblance between the two men and officers were positive in their identification although Hudson had escaped from the chain-gang some 23 years ago.

Wilson was taken back to Georgia where he protested to officials that he was not the man in question. It was not until August 1939 that he was able to get an attorney to look into the case.

The attorney established that Wilson was born in Kentucky in 1883 and moved to Cleveland in 1910, that he married there in 1915, five months before Hudson is said to have escaped from the prison gang. A marriage certificate was introduced and it was further shown that Wilson was a qualified voter in the Ohio city while the escaped man was still in prison.

Hudson was convicted of voluntary murder in 1909 and sentenced to serve 16 years in the penitentiary. He escaped in 1915 and was not apprehended.

Telegraph
Macon, Georgia
U. S. Commissioner

Arraigns Five Negroes

Five Negroes have been arraigned before Mrs. M. G. Martin, U. S. commissioner, on charges of violating the federal alcohol control laws.

They were arrested by state highway patrolmen Saturday when more than 50 gallons of liquor were confiscated, and were committed to federal court under \$1,000 bond each.

They are listed as A. C. Carter, Felton Pitts, Tommie Card and James Wimes, all of Bibb county, and Johnny Walker, Washington county.

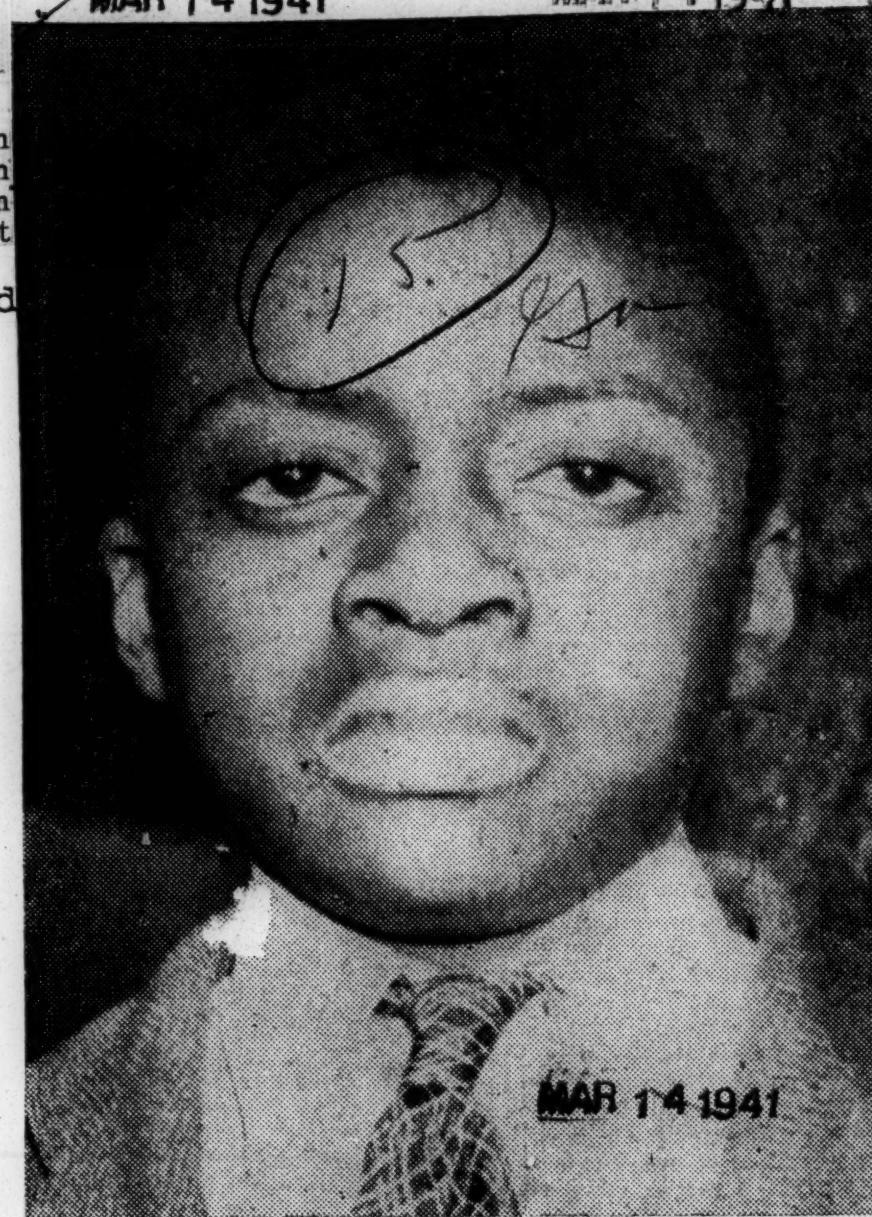
In the meantime, ironically, an ex-prison warden has recommended the passage of a bill permitting the flogging of prisoners, which he contends, will put an end to the inhumane treatment of convicts.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Tortured By Four Men

MAR 14 1941

MAR 14 1941



LUTHER PHILLIPS, 13, of 110 Mills street, N.W., who was the victim of kidnapping and torture by four men here last week. Members of his family had been threatened with death if they testified in an arson trial involving Jack Huff, who has been bound over to state courts. They ignored the warning and Luther was seized from the back part of the house, driven to a clump of woods and beaten and tortured severely. All that did not stop the Washington High school student, Boy Scout, promising musician and young church worker and his father from testifying in the arson case. Federal police are investigating a "black hand" letter of warning received by Luther's mother prior to the kidnap-torture. (SNS Staff Photo)

Telegraph
Macon, Georgia
Negro Who Caught
Load of Birdshot
Back at Hospital

Charlie Waters, 29, Negro, 206 Henry street, was reported in fair condition last night in Macon hospital where he is under treatment for gunshot wound of the back.

The Negro was transferred from the county jail where he was being held on attempted burglary charges, to the hospital yesterday morning. He was shot Monday night by W. J. Davis, 185 Cedar street, when Davis allegedly discovered him stealing chickens at his residence, police said.

Charges of larceny were filed against the wounded Negro yesterday by Detective R. E. Smith, who said Waters was wearing a pair of trousers stolen from Samuel Thomas, 222 Elizabeth street.

Waters was treated at the hospital Monday night a short time after he was shot, was discharged to officers because of crowded conditions in the hospital and upon belief he was not seriously wounded.

MAR 26 1941

Detectives said he gave his brother's name to investigating officers but was later identified from police records.

Telegraph
Macon, Georgia

Negro APR 1 1941
With No Money In It

A stealthy Negro snatched a purse last night near the corner of Mulberry and Fifth streets and escaped — but it had no money in it.

The loser was Mrs. Ralph Ricketson of Atlanta, who is visiting at 686 College street.

The Negro snatched the purse as Mr. and Mrs. Ricketson were about to enter their parked automobile after making grocery purchases.

APR 7 3 1941

Mrs. Ricketson's chief loss was a \$25 pair of glasses, which she said the thief probably would discard. Detectives investigated.

15-1941

Macon, Ga., News
April 8, 1941

WHITE MEN FLOG NEGRO IN SWAMP

Bloomfield Road Young Man Taken From Home by Four Assailants

Four white men late Monday night took a Bibb county young Negro farmhand from his Bloomfield road home, beat him unmercifully with a length of bicycle tire in the river swamps near here and later returned him to the highway near his home, a county police officer reported Tuesday.

Victim of the flogging is Willie Bonner, about 18, employed as a farmhand on the Henry G. Lawrence place.

Covered with bruises and skinned places, the Negro was unable to work today but his condition did not warrant hospital treatment.

OFFICER WALTER WALDRON said the Negro told him the men came to his home at about 11:30 p.m., took him into a "big gray car" and carried him to the river swamp.

The men did not seek to hide their identity and did not give the Negro any explanation of their actions, the Negro told Officer Waldron.

Officer Waldron reported, however, that he had learned from another source what the flogging was about. He declined to reveal what he had learned.

The Negro told the officers the men came to his house purportedly to "see something about a dog."

Macon, Ga., Telegraph
April 9, 1941

Officers Seek Flog Quartet

County officers launched a search for four white men who allegedly took a Bloomfield road Negro from his home late Monday, handcuffed him to a tree in the river swamp and flogged him unmercifully with a length of bicycle tire.

The Negro, identified by County Policeman Walter Waldron as Willie Bonner, about 18, said the four men told him they were of-

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Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Proprietor Held In Shooting Of Negro

APR 21 1941

A white man reported to be the Greek operator of a cafe at 109 Decatur Street, was under arrest at City Police headquarters Sunday in connection with the shooting of Thomas Lovejoy, 38, of a local hotel address. Lovejoy, wounded in the left chest portion and right leg, was reported in fair condition at Grady Hospital Sunday night. APR 21 1941

The arrested man was listed as John S. Shikany, 37. Shikany in a sworn statement to police, said he had stopped a fight in his place, putting one of the assailants out, when a third man walked up and said, "You can't treat me like that." Informed that he was not being spoken to, the man allegedly pulled a knife and cut at Shikany, who got his gun and shot three times. Admitted to Grady, the man was later identified as Lovejoy. Shikany was charged with shooting another, pending condition of the wounded man.

Telegraph
Macon, Georgia

White Man Accused Of Beating Negress

Accused of beating a 13-year-old Negro girl to force her to confess stealing his watch O. P. Wood, white man of 619 Oglethorpe street, was docketed by Macon police last night on a disorderly conduct charge.

The beating occurred, the Negress told Detectives G. C. Britt and L. E. McCallum, after Wood accused her of the theft. The Negress, listed as Ella Ruth Hardison, Tindall Heights, works in a duplex apartment house in which Wood lives, officers stated.

Admitting theft of the watch in order to escape her accuser, the Negress said she told Wood she would return the timepiece if released. Instead she reported the incident to police headquarters.

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Dallas Escape Seized by Man Without Gun

MAY 9 - 1941

Leon Parris, 22, Unexpectedly Captures 'Little Alcatraz' Prisoner.

It was the easiest \$25 he ever made, but Leon Parris, 22, of Dallas, Ga., is wondering if he wasn't just a little nuts at the time.

It seems that Leon, a slim, quiet-talking young Dallas newspaperman, working temporarily at a textile mill near Dallas, got home one afternoon a month or so ago to find the whole town talking about a mass escape of six or seven of the assorted desperadoes which Georgia keeps at "Little Alcatraz," the Dallas prison farm.

So Leon cranks up his jalopy and hies himself to a place called Carter's Curve, which is an old road near town that commands quite a view of the surrounding countryside. MAY 9 - 1941

Here he parked for a few minutes, observing the panorama of woods below, when suddenly he saw, stumbling through the underbrush, a large, shiny Negro convict, obviously in haste.

Thrusting his hand inside his leather jacket to make it look as if he had a gun, he shouted to the Negro to halt or get shot. The Negro halted. He then shouted for him to come out, slowly, with his hands up. Which was done.

About that time a state patrol car arrived and took the Negro—one Freddie Lee Hooks, into custody. They put him in the back of the car and turned to Leon Parris. "What kind of gun you got?" they asked him.

"I've got no gun," he said. "Well, I be doggone," said the prisoner. MAY 9 - 1941

Yesterday Leon got his \$25 reward.

ATKINSON NAMED IN INDICTMENT

Assault to Murder
On C. A. King at
Boys' Farm Charged

Arthur Atkinson, veteran Fulton County employee, Saturday was under grand jury indictment on charges of assault with intent to murder another employee, C. A. King, last February 4 at the Negro Boys' Industrial Farm, where both worked.

The defendant, returned Friday, alleges that Atkinson struck King with a stick with intent to kill him. The grand jury was given additional information that, after King was knocked down once, he was struck again on the back of the head with the same stick.

The altercation had its reverberation in the meetings of the Board of County Commissioners. Both employees were dismissed, but Atkinson later was rehired by the commissioners and immediately placed upon a so-called "special" pension, or drawing account, which is independent of the county pension fund authorized by law. A week later the commissioners rescinded this action.

Mr. King applied for reinstatement after the commissioners' action, but was refused.

Atkinson previously had been convicted of manslaughter and subsequently won a parole from his prison sentence.

Woman Shoots White Soldier Molesting 14-Year Old Niece

21-Year-Old Alabaman Under Arrest In Ft. Benning Hospital

FORT BENNING, Ga.—(SNS)—Pfc. Lawrence W. Roden, 21, a cook in the mess operated by the First Company of the 4th Training Battalion of the Infantry School, is at the Fort Benning station hospital as the result of pistol shot injuries received in Columbus late Wednesday night. As a patient at the hospital he is under the custody of the Post Provost Marshal pending complete investigation of the circumstances under which he received his injuries. His condition is not believed to be critical.

According to the report of Lieut. Col. Herbert B. Lafix, the post provost marshal, based on a preliminary investigation, Roden was shot with a .32 caliber pistol by a colored woman who alleged she fired to protect a 14-year old niece. The shooting took place in the vicinity of the railway station, at Sixth Avenue, near 13th Street, where the woman had parked her automobile.

According to her story, she and her niece, the Provost Marshal report recounts, had just stepped out of the automobile to await the arrival of the woman's husband after he quit work nearby, when Roden, unaccompanied came along and grabbed the girl. The woman, the report continues, thereupon reached in her car, obtained a pistol and shot Roden.

Roden, the Provost Marshal states, was visibly under the influence of intoxicants when taken into custody.

He was brought to the station hospital, where it was found that the bullet had pierced the fleshy part of his upper right arm and entered the right side of his abdomen.

Military records show that Roden is serving in his first enlistment and that he enlisted on June 13, 1940 at Fort McClellan, where he stated that his home was in Alabama City, Ala. He was transferred to the Infantry School Service Command the first of last January from the 8th Infantry. His military record is clear.

As a cook, he holds a third class specialist rating.

Atlanta, Ga. Journal
May 27, 1941

HOLDUP LOOT FOUND IN RIVER

Checks to High Co. Downtown Robbery Dumped in Tennessee

Police of three states pressed their search Tuesday for three bandits who staged a daring daylight holdup less than a block from Five Points Monday noon.

The trio robbed P. L. McKinney, comptroller of J. M. High Company, of a large amount of cash and checks he was taking to the bank. Mr. McKinney said all three men were armed with .45-caliber automatic pistols and escaped in a 1940 or '41 model automobile. He reported the loss as approximately \$1,400.

Monday night, Chief W. A. Womack, of Winchester, Tenn., informed local authorities that two Negroes fishing near Winchester saw someone throw a small handbag from an automobile into the river.

The chief said the Negroes pulled the bag out and found it loaded with checks payable to J. M. High Company. He also said several holes had been cut in the bag and it contained weights to make it sink.

Alabama authorities were also asked to be on the lookout for the highwaymen, Atlanta detectives figuring they might double back on their trail.

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

Fugitive Once Helped By Courts Jailed

NEW YORK, May 29. (U.P.)—Jay Gould Cotton, 16-year-old negro who received sympathy from courts here after his escape from a Savannah, Ga., chain gang, was remanded today to the Brooklyn city jail after it was alleged in Magistrate's Court that he had not justified the trust placed in him.

Detective Edward Carey rearraigned Cotton on a fugitive charge and asked that his bail be revoked, telling Magistrate George H. Folwell that police allege Cotton and another negro youth broke into the Harlem apartment of a negro woman and criminally attacked her April 30.

Carey said that Cotton had been charged with juvenile pregnancy and held in the Manhattan children's shelter for hearing June 11.

The youth escaped from the prison camp on Oct. 23, 1940. Early this year he was arraigned on the fugitive charge, Magistrate Charles Solomon commented on the injustice of sending a youth to a chain gang and then interceded with Gov. Herbert H. Lehman to stay extradition proceedings pending examination of the boy's record. Bill Robinson, negro dancer, put up \$1,500 bail for Cotton.

Magistrate Folwell remanded Cotton to jail, and adjourned hearing on the fugitive charge to June 18.

Pittsburgh Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

WHITE SOLDIER SHOT BY WOMAN

FORT BENNING, Ga., May 22—Lawrence W. Roden, 21, a white cook in the mess operated by the First Company of the Fourth Training Battalion of the Infantry School is at the Fort Benning station hospital as the result of pistol shot injuries received in Columbus late Wednesday night. As a patient at the hospital he is under the custody of the Post Provost Marshal pending complete investigation.

According to the report of Lieut. Col. Herbert B. Lafix, the post provost marshal, based on a prelim-

inary investigation, Roden, a native of Alabama, was shot with a .32 caliber pistol by a colored woman who alleged she fired to protect a 14-year-old niece.

According to her story, she and her niece, the Provost Marshal report recounts, had just stepped out of the automobile to await the arrival of the woman's husband after he quit work nearby, when Roden, unaccompanied, came along and grabbed the girl. The woman, the report continues, thereupon reached in her car, obtained a pistol and shot Roden.

Roden, the Provost Marshal states, was visibly under the influence of intoxicants when taken into custody.

Telegraph
Macon, Georgia

3 Bound Over By Recorder

An 18-year-old white woman booked as Edna Johnson, 452 Elm street, yesterday was committed from recorder's court to city court under \$300 bail bond, charged with public drunkenness and violation of the state health law.

Louis Cooper, 20, Negro, 320 Hammond street, was delivered to the Houston county sheriff on a burglary charge, while Rochelle Gordon, 17, Negro, who gave his address as Standard Brick Yard, was delivered to Bibb county sheriff on a warrant charging larceny in the alleged theft of a bicycle.

Sentenced to pay a \$25 fine or serve 50 days in city stockade on a loitering charge booked in the ice-pick stabbing Monday of Bob Williams, 57-year-old Negro, was Louise McClester, alias Louise Mack, Negress. Williams was in fair condition at Macon hospital yesterday.

Collateral of \$13 furnished by a white man booked as Walton Odom, arrested June 7 on a charge of drunkenness under the steering wheel of a car, was forfeited when he failed to appear for a hearing.

Hearings were continued to Monday, June 21, 1941, Louise Haunton Jr., 18, 720 Oglethorpe street, charged with driving a car without a license and without brakes after a traffic accident Thursday night at 240 Magnolia street.

15-1941

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Officer Shoots Rear Decatur Street Man

Claims Victim Had
Struck Him Beside
Head, Hidden Hand

Robert Brown, of rear 264 Decatur street, was shot and critically wounded at 3:30 o'clock Monday afternoon by Motorcycle Officer W. G. Densmore. The shooting occurred in the rear of the same address.

The officer said he shot the youth twice, once in the leg and again through the stomach. The victim was reported in a critical state Monday night at Grady hospital.

In his report to the Chief of Police, the policeman said a fight in an alley off of Decatur street attracted his attention. He declared he called Robert Brown but Brown went around another house instead. When Brown returned to the alley, Policeman Densmore said he called him again. "I went into the alley to get him when he refused to come and as I neared him I again told him to come to me."

The motorcycle officer explained that Brown had both hands in his pockets when "I took hold of him."

The report went on to say that Brown jerked away from the policemen, removed his hands from his pockets and struck the officer beside the head.

The officer said when he attempted to hit Brown, the youth crowded him and struck him again. "I shoved him off with my knee and arm and then I had to shoot him through the fleshy part of the leg," Officer Densmore revealed.

The policeman said he shot the youth through the stomach when Brown cursed him and broke and ran. Giving his reason for shooting the victim the second time, the policeman said he had not searched Brown and the suspect had his hand in his pocket when he turned and ran.

Witnesses to the shooting were listed as two colored and two white persons. They were Charles M.

Correy, white, 264 Decatur street; Miss Maggie Allison, 262 1-2 Decatur street; W. R. Bennett, white, 262 Decatur street, and Miss Lillian Barnett, 272 1-2 Decatur Street.

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Jurors Grill Ex-Driver of Rivers 2 Hours

Jury Climaxes 2 Months' Service by Filing Presentments.

Albert Chandler, 34-year-old Negro, ex-chauffeur to former Governor Rivers, yesterday spent about two hours under a grilling examination by the May-June grand jury just before it climaxed its two months' service by filing presentments with Judge Paul S. Etheridge.

Jurors would not comment on what Chandler told them or the questions asked. They said they received "some interesting information which may or may not be of value."

Chandler was whisked into the grand jury room after being rushed to Atlanta from New York, where he was arrested Wednesday on indictments charging him with the sale of two pardons, and it was conceded that the grand jurors sought information as to how he was able to offer pardons at a minimum figure of \$25 each.

Presentments Delayed.

The presentments, which were delayed until Chandler could reach Atlanta and be interviewed, failed to mention Chandler, but embodied special presentments made by the July several days ago, demanding that the sources of income during Rivers' four years as chief executive be investigated by federal agencies.

In addition to repeating the de-

mand for the Rivers income probe, other highlights of the presentments were:

1. Recommended establishment of a school for delinquent boys and another for girls in an effort to reduce the moral menace. The city and county school systems were urged to co-operate in providing shops, teachers, health service, psychiatrists and psychiatric nurses.

2. Recommended that a special 2 1-2-mill tax levy be made for relief purposes, saying the jurors believe the Fulton county public welfare department can operate on this millage, which would provide about \$750,000 for the year. The presentments also commended Thomas C. Dickson, welfare director, and his aides. The tax levy last year was 2.75 mills.

Redoubled Efforts.

3. Assailed obscene literature, and called on all law enforcement agencies to redouble their efforts to stamp it out, asserting investigations disclosed horrible conditions which contributed to delinquency.

4. Called on superior court judges to crack down on repeaters, calling attention to the fact that more than 50 per cent of the indictments made are against persons already having a criminal record.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Albert Chandler Arrested In Mineola, N. Y.

Grand Jury Asks
U. S. Investigation
Of Rivers' Income

Within the same hour Tuesday that the Fulton County grand jury returned special presentments calling upon the Federal Government to investigate all sources of former Governor Rivers' income, Albert Chandler, 23, who was formerly Mr. Rivers' chauffeur, waived extradition following his arrest in Mineola, New York, and in custody of two detectives started back to Atlanta to face prosecution on

GEORGIA

charges of peddling gubernatorial pardons.

He waived extradition at his arraignment before County Judge Cortland A. Johnson on a fugitive-from-justice warrant and was turned over to William E. Spence, of the Fulton Solicitor General's office, and Detectives D. C. Vaugh and G. D. Austin of Atlanta.

The officers started the trip to Atlanta at once.

PARDON RACKET DENOUNCED

In a scathing denunciation of the state pardon racket, the Fulton grand jury appealed to the Federal Government to conduct a thorough investigation into all sources of income of the former Governor during his term of office.

Chandler was indicted by the Fulton grand jury on two felony charges that he accepted money to influence former Governor Rivers in granting two pardons.

Although grand juries throughout the state have long criticized the pardon setup of the Rivers' administration, the indictment against Chandler is the first true bill to be voted in any circuit.

INDICTMENT ANNOUNCEMENT WITHHELD

The former chauffeur was indicted last Friday, but the grand jury withheld announcement of its action until Atlanta officers could go to New York State to locate him. The suspect was reported trailed to Great Neck, L. I., and traced through his draft registration to Mineola.

One count of the indictment against Chandler alleges that while an employee of the then governor of Georgia, on January 12, he received \$50 from Henry Wilburn for attempting to influence, and for influencing the said Governor in the discharge of his official duty in passing upon an application for pardon and for granting a pardon to Henry Wilburn.

Wilburn, a convict who had been sentenced to life imprisonment for murder in Fulton Superior Court, at the time was actually serving the sentence.

The other count alleges that Chandler, under identical circumstances as on the same date, accepted \$25 from Frank Leonard, who was then serving a Fulton Superior Court sentence of not less than 10 years and not more than 10 years for assault with intent to murder.

The charges brought against

Chandler are founded upon Section 26-4103 of the Criminal Code, titled, "Influencing the Governor."

HUNDREDS PARDONED

The two pardons were among the hundreds that were ground out, day and night, and on into the early hours of morning the last few days of the Rivers' administration.

If convicted, Chandler faces sentence of one to 20 years' imprisonment on each count.

Among the witnesses examined just prior to the Chandler indictment was Downing Musgrave, the ex-Governor's former executive secretary. However, Marvin Griffin was executive secretary to Governor Rivers at the time the pardons were issued. Mr. Griffin is now in the Army at Fortress Monroe, Va., but the solicitor general is seeking to have him appear before the grand jury for questioning concerning many other pardons that he allegedly signed in the name of Governor Rivers.

The grand jury, in presentments issued May 3 under the caption, "Prostitution of the Pardon Power," said in part:

"As further evidence of the flagrant prostitution of the pardoning power, we cite the case of the Governor's chauffeur, Albert Chandler, who frequently went to the Fulton prison camps with pardons already signed and asked to see prisoners whom he did not know and who did not know him. One of the most significant cases is that of Frank Leonard and Henry Wilburn. Leonard was serving a sentence for assault with intent to murder a business man of College Park, and Wilburn was serving a life sentence for murder.

"Albert Chandler reported to the prison camp one day (January 12) and asked for permission to see these two men. Upon inquiry, the warden learned that he had pardons for them, both of which were signed by the Governor's secretary.

STRANGE PROCEDURE

"This strange procedure was confusing to the warden, but he, nevertheless, permitted the two convicts to see the visitor. The men, on being asked if they knew Chandler, replied that they did not, and furthermore, were not at all aware that anyone was interested in their behalf for clemency.

"Even so, Chandler stated, he had their pardons and asked them

how much they were willing to pay him for them. Somewhat startled, they said they were unable to pay anything. "In that case," replied Chandler, "I'll take them back to the Capitol and have them marked off."

"Then it was that Wilburn said that the warden had \$50 of his money and he would be glad to pay that much. This was acceptable to Chandler. While Wilburn was out of the room to get his money, Leonard stated that he did have \$25 which he might get together and pay, but that was all. Chandler replied by stating he felt that he should pay as much as Wilburn, but acquiesced after some argument and accepted the \$25.00.

"The chief of police of College Park and the citizen who had been wounded by Leonard heard about what had happened and rushed to see the Governor at the Capitol. The Governor claimed to be ignorant of the whole affair and stated that his secretary had, perhaps, granted the pardons.

"These two men were insistent that Leonard's pardon be recalled. Objections were given. The Governor recalled Leonard's pardon and ordered the money refunded.

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Ex-Chauffeur Posts Bond in Pardon Charge

Albert Chandler Grilled by Jurors, Faces Two Indictments.

Albert Chandler, Negro ex-chauffeur to former Governor Rivers, was free last night after having a \$1,000 bond to insure his appearance for trial on two indictments charging him with selling pardons during the closing days of the Rivers administration.

Chandler appeared before the May-June grand jury before it was discharged Thursday afternoon, and spent about two hours with the jurors. Grand jurors refused to say whether or not they obtained any definite or valuable information regarding the state pardon racket, which the grand jury assailed in its presentments and in which it requested federal

agencies investigate Rivers' sources of income during his four years as Governor.

Although Chandler retired from the grand jury room before 5 o'clock Thursday afternoon, he did not arrive at the jail until 9 or 10 o'clock Thursday night, jailors said. He was delivered to the jail by William E. Spence, an investigator in Solicitor General John A. Boykin's office, it was reported.

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Jury Will Hear New Evidence About Pardons

Boykin To Offer Testimony of Rivers' Former Chauffeur.

The July-August grand jury, which will be sworn in tomorrow morning, will be given new evidence which Solicitor General John A. Boykin and his aides obtained after questioning Albert Chandler, Negro ex-chauffeur to former Governor Rivers and will be urged to continue the probe of the state pardon racket through which hundreds of repeaters are alleged to have secured their freedom.

Boykin yesterday said he will offer Chandler's testimony to the new grand jury and expressed the hope "it will go into the matter thoroughly." He declined to discuss what new information Chandler gave him or the May-June grand jury before which the Negro was grilled for almost two hours, saying anything publicized at the present time would "flush the covey."

The Northwest Enterprise
Seattle, Washington

Federal Grand Jury Indicts Negro For Selling Pardons

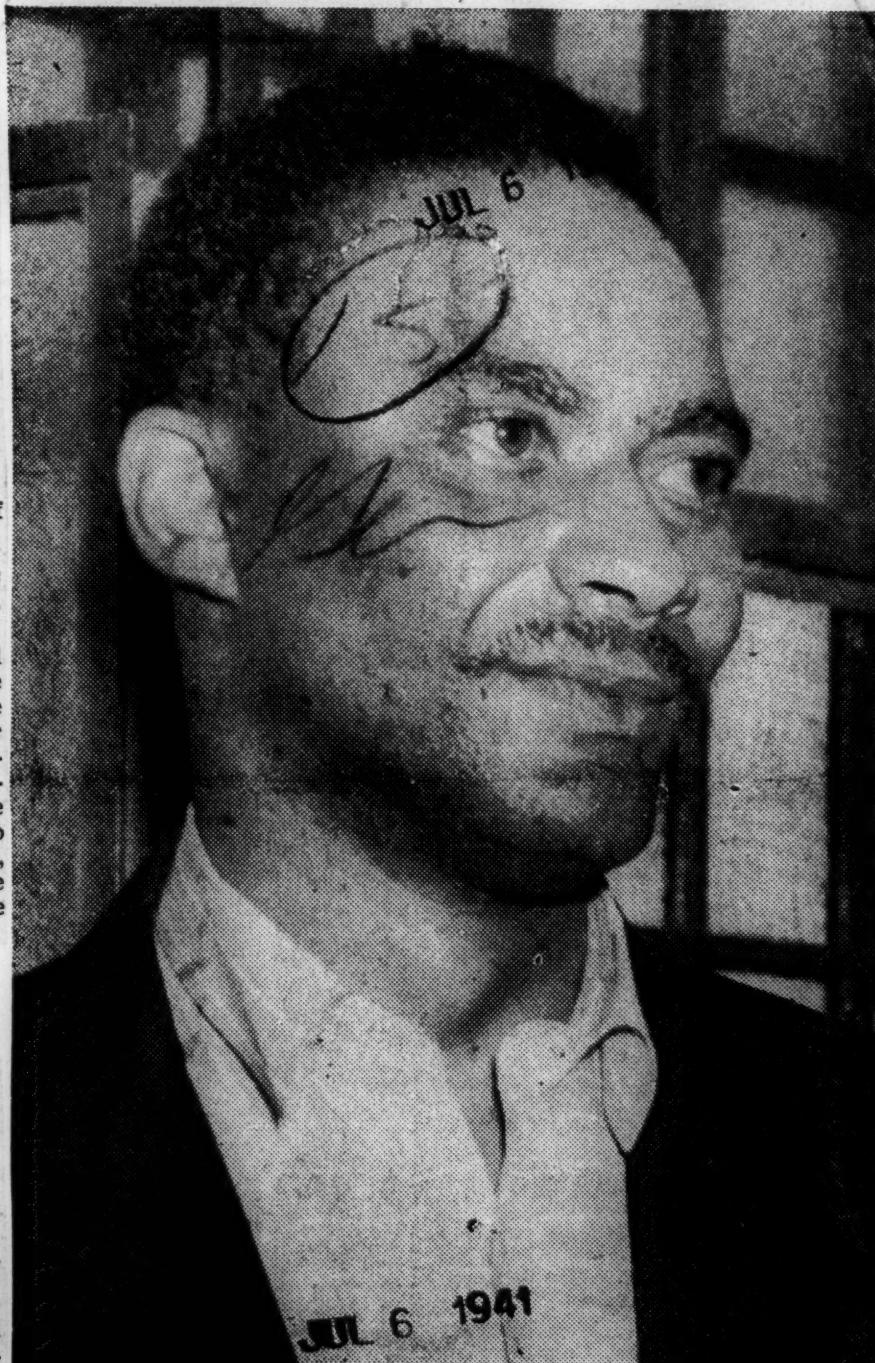
Albert Chandler, a former chauffeur of ex-Governor E. D. Rivers of Georgia was arrested in New York charged with selling 300 to 400 pardons, was announced by William E. Spence, an investigator for the Fulton, Georgia, sol-

icitor general. William E. Spence, an investigator for the Fulton solicitor-general, reported that he had arrested Albert Chandler, 34-year-old Negro at Great Neck, N. Y.

Spence said that two indictments accused Chandler of obtaining 1,000 blank pardons, signed by Rivers, and peddling them from prison to prison throughout Georgia.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Named As Pardon Peddler



Thirty-four-year-old Albert Chandler, chauffeur for ex-Governor Ed Rivers of Georgia is shown in Mineola, L. I., shortly before he began his return trip to Atlanta to face two charges of "peddling pardons," during his employer's administration. Chandler was released under a \$1,000 bond Saturday afternoon and undergone a two-hour questioning period at the hands of Fulton grand jurors. (Acme.)

ia during Rivers' final 48 hours in office last December. He said that the Negro was accused of selling between 300 and 400, some for as \$25. Jul 4 1941 that twenty-two of his customers were convicted murderers.

Rivers granted several hundred pardons just before his term expired.

Time
Chicago, Illinois
GEORGIA

Pardoner's Tale

When a Governor pardons a condemned criminal, it's sometimes news; when his chauffeur does, it's usually a crime. Last week a Fulton County (Atlanta) Grand Jury, in the process of asking questions about the pardons granted by ex-Governor Eurith Dickinson Rivers, stretched a long hand to Great Neck, N.Y., hauled in Albert Chandler, Negro chauffeur lately in Rivers' service.

Charges: he "frequently went to prison camps of Fulton County with pardons already signed and asked to see prisoners whom he did not know and who did not know him. . . . Henry Wilburn was serving a life sentence for murder. . . . Wilburn said [to Chandler] the warden had \$50 of his and he would be glad to pay that much. This was acceptable to Chandler." The jury reported: "Henry Wilburn, the one who was serving life for murder, is free today at a cost of \$50 [paid] to the Jul 4 1941."

How smart, ingratiating, gold-toothed Chandler got the pardons he sold remained for the jury to decide.

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Putnam Sheriff Arrests Negro Sought 20 Years

Special to THE CONSTITUTION.
EATONTON, Ga., Sept. 16.—It might take 20 years, but Putnam's sheriff, J. L. Paschal, always gets his man.

That, at least, happened yesterday when Sheriff Paschal jailed a Negro, Fred Moseley, who was indicted for killing a Negress, Katie Walker, here 20 years ago. Moseley fled from the county soon after the Negress was killed and officers had never been able to find him. Sheriff Paschal found him in Hancock county, where he had assumed the name of Willie Reed. He is slated for trial here this week.

15-1941
Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Quick-Thinking Maid Believed To Have Prevented Abduction

Refused To Admit Man Into House To See Girl, 11, When He Was Unable To Give Her Name, Police Told. NOV 17 1941

A quick-thinking Negro maid, police believe, late Saturday night prevented the abduction of Barbara Klein, 11-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mackey Klein, of 1307 Lanier Boulevard, N.E.

Klein, well known Atlanta beauty parlor operator, yesterday told police the maid and his daughter were in the house Saturday night when a white man knocked at a rear door.

Talking to the maid through a screen door, latched from the inside, the man asked to see Klein. When informed that Klein and his wife were not at home, the man then inquired about their daughter, stating he was anxious to see her.

When the maid asked the man the child's name, the intruder was unable to give it. The maid then refused to admit him, and the man, police were told, made an effort to force the door open. Failing, he then drove away in an automobile bearing an out-of-state license plate.

In reporting the incident to police, Klein said he knew of no one who would try to force his way into the home to see his daughter, and expressed the opinion the man was either trying to rob the house or kidnap the child. Detectives M. M. Coppinger and Leo Nahlik were assigned to investigate.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Pointed Out As Man Who Kicked Colored Woman

NOV 22 1941
Case Is Being

Pushed By / 3
Atlanta NAACP

The Atlanta Branch of the

GEORGIA

sent the defendant in the appellate court.

A \$10,000 damage suit has been instituted against McCoy by the NAACP for injuries to Mrs. Thornton. The papers have been served him.

An NAACP defense fund committee headed by Mrs. Ruby Blackburn is well on its way in raising \$500 to carry the Thornton case to victory. A number of other cases of brutality have been taken up by the Atlanta branch, of which T. M. Alexander is president. Colored Atlantans generally are being asked to contribute to the fund which is intended for defense against police and civilian injustices to them. Reports are being made at Tuesday night emergency meetings.

Coy, a white shipping clerk, Attorney Willingham said that was bound over to Fulton criminal court charged with assault and battery to Mrs. Ruth Thornton.

1172287

McCoy made \$100 bond after it was assessed by Judge Luther M. Rosser, of Fulton Civil Court, where a commitment hearing was held Friday morning.

'SMART ALECK'

After listening to testimony that McCoy kicked Mrs. Thornton in the mouth twice on a River line street car on October 1 after an argument ensued over who was to board the trolley first, Judge Rosser said, 'I think you're just a smart aleck—I know your kind' and ordered him bound over for trial on the charges. McCoy contended that Mrs. Thornton cursed and spat on him during their alleged altercation on October 1 and that he acted because of her attitude and actions toward him. Police arrested Mrs. Thornton on a "disorderly conduct" charge. The white man was not arrested.

Mrs. Thornton was fined \$27 in City Recorder's Court on October 2 when she exhibited bloody and badly swollen lips, allegedly from McCoy's kicks. She said that she was boarding the street car just as McCoy rushed up and pushed her back and an argument ensued over who was to board the trolley first.

NAACP APPEALS FINE

The Atlanta NAACP entered the case and appealed the \$27 fine assessed by Record A. W. Callaway, Attorney George Willingham, who represented Mrs. Thornton in the city court, was appointed to repre-

15-1941

ILLINOIS

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois
**GETS 4 MONTHS
FOR STEALING 70C
FROM 2 LETTERS**

Claude L. Williams, 61 years old, colored, a postal employé for 27 years, pleaded guilty yesterday to stealing 70 cents from two letters and was sentenced to four months in the County Jail by ~~JAN 7 1941~~ Judge John P. Barnes. Williams also was placed on probation for another year and a day and lost all his service rights, including the pension for which he would have been eligible in two years. Williams, who lives at 5039 Champlain avenue, worked as a mail sorter in the new post office.

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois
**15, ALL COLORED,
SENTENCED ON
DOPE CHARGES**

Fifteen persons, all colored, found guilty on narcotics charges, were sentenced to from one hour in custody to 15 years in federal prison yesterday by ~~JAN 7 1941~~ Federal Judge John P. Barnes. "One of the most oppressive rackets in Chicago," reads the introduction, "has grown up around Nathan Banks, owner of the '33 club" at 122 East 33d street, got the South Side. The riders and the drivers are the victims. Together we can smash this racket and stop paying graft to racketeers."

Banks' wife, Emma, and his step-daughter, Rosalie Bowman; Ralph Aleksander, Wadis Seawood, and Kermit Dawkins were sentenced to 10 years in prison. Joseph Morrow and John Lacey got five years, and seven others, who testified for the government, received the one hour sentences. Sentencing of Helen White, sister of Mrs. Banks, was delayed until today. ~~JAN 7 1941~~

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

Charge Graft In South Side Taxicab Set-Up; Ask Probe

FEB 9 - 1941

Strong charges of graft and strike-breaking were made this week against the Chicago police and its "Labor Detail," the Manhattan Mutual Insurance company, officials of the Jim Crow Chauffeurs' Division of the Teamsters' Union, and the Taxicab Owners' Association in Chicago, by the Transport Workers Union, local 301. ~~FEB 9 - 1941~~

A pamphlet published by the Midwest Federation for Constitutional Liberties in conjunction with the Transport Workers Union, under the title of "We Ex-

pose the Taxi-Cab Racket which Robs the Pockets of South Side Citizens" outlines the charges.

"Let the aldermen and South Side Council know that we demand a public investigation of the system of graft on the South Side."

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

Negro Placed in Jail In Shooting of 2 Men

Special to THE CONSTITUTION.

DAWSON, Ga., April 23.—John Mitchell, Negro ex-convict, who, it is charged, last Thursday shot and wounded J. H. Smith, Terrell county farmer, and Deputy Sheriff Waldo Haley, as the latter attempted to arrest Mitchell near Dawson, was captured today by Deputy Haley as Mitchell emerged from a patch of woods at the farm of Dr. C. G. Crawford, near Sasser, eight miles southeast of Dawson.

Officers heard early today that Mitchell had been seen in that section and went there to renew the search for him. Sheriff Turner said the Negro offered no resistance. Mitchell was placed in the county jail charged with assault with intent to murder.

Taxicab owners and insurance companies are accused of taking over \$4,000 a year on each cab in rents, etc., from the drivers, while the drivers make only \$13.25 a week from the fares they collect. Drivers are caught between the necessity of making a living and the sweat-shop graft system of taxicab operations.

The Transport Workers Union attempted to improve the conditions of drivers and presented a plan to legalize taxi operations by instituting a "zoning system" such as the system used in Washington, D. C. The pamphlet charges the police, the owners, the insurance company and certain Teamsters' Union officials

with joining in a campaign of strike-breaking.

Racket Exposed

"The racket exposed in this pamphlet is an example of how certain powerful forces are at work undermining democracy in America. Members of the police force, powerful finance companies, cab owners and misleaders of labor work hand in hand with the corrupt political machines to prevent the people from accomplishing their just demands. We must smash this racket. We must free the people of the South Side from this graft." ~~FEB 9 - 1941~~

"Let the aldermen and South Side Council know that we demand a public investigation of

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

Ally Racketeers

MAY 4 - 1941

IT would appear that the city officials, including the law enforcement division, has made the remarkable discovery that gambling exists on the Southside and something ought to be done about it. This is the logical conclusion one would deduct after observing that for years nothing was done to curb the growing menace that has snared hundreds of our young men and women into its network and all of a certain the walls of jails began to bulge with the arrests of several hundred policy players.

Whether this is a serious attempt to rid the Southside of the evil or whether it is simply an official warning to show the degree of wrath that can be brought upon the gamblers when politicians disagree is a matter left to the development of subsequent events. At least one can not become too confident over the probable continuity of the raids for the unholy alliance between the law and law-breakers may still be in force and effect. Until the alliance is dissolved there can be no effective eradication of gambling on the Southside. ~~MAY 4 - 1941~~

At the same time there is still another powerful ally in this unholy set-up whose present status and interest are obscured with a degree of suspicions. It is the political ally. Officers heard early today that it is wondered if the politicians will long permit these raids to continue to interfere with their heavy campaign contributors. The political rackets also supply a good many of the jobs that are distributed as political patronage for deserving party workers.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Rap Warden's Failure To Report Prisoner's Death

NOV 8 1941

The Chicago branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People protested this week to Warden Frank G. Sain of Cook county jail for the failure of jail officials to notify the relatives of Marion Dalton of his death September 2.

The branch has been investigating a complaint filed with it by Mrs. Maude Wheeler, 4034 Indiana avenue, sister of the deceased man, for three weeks. The sister complained to the branch that her brother died in the county jail September 2 following his arrest on a charge of burglary.

She stated that her brother surrendered to police who arrested him and took him to Stanton avenue police station, later to Eleventh street and from there to the county jail.

She said ~~she did not~~ find out about him until September 8 when she received the following statement from the state's attorney's office: "Marion Dalton died in county jail September 2, 1941, was taken to county morgue by Twenty-fourth district wagon. His number is 31583." ~~NOV 8 1941~~

Ira Williams, president of the Chicago branch N.A.C.P., protester to the sheriff, Thomas J. O'Brien, and to the commissioner of police about their failure to notify the relatives of the man's death. Captain John T. Scott of the Fourth district said police had the names and addresses of the man's relatives.

A letter to Warden Sain this week scored jail officials as to their failure to notify the relatives.

The practice by police officers in jailing people and holding them for days and even weeks without permitting them to communicate with their relatives should be stopped, a spokesman for the branch declared.

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

LONE NEGRO ATTACKED BY POOR WHITES

NAACP to Fight Case

The local branch of the NAACP went into action this week to provide legal representation to a victim of a North Side mob that beat him with a hammer, kicked and cut him with a knife in a near riot ~~SEP 21 1941~~ occurred September 7 at 608 North Clark street. The victim landed in jail while one of his assailants went to the hospital.

Andrew Fitzpatrick, 32, 3612 Prairie avenue, is the victim. He said that he was working as a doorman at the Sunset cafe located at 608 North Clark street. At 2 a.m. he stated that he was standing outside the cafe talking with a white man when he heard a loud voice say that "all n—rs are no good." Apparently the man did not see him. As he turned around Fitzpatrick said one of three men called out in a loud voice and said, "Look at this big black n—r. We just kicked a n—r down the street. What would you do if we kicked you?" one asked. Fitzpatrick said nothing. The white man standing beside him asked the men to go on as Fitzpatrick was doing nothing to them. He was accused of being a "n—r loving Jew." The men became so loud and boisterous until Fitzpatrick went inside the cafe.

Find Them Waiting

He returned to his post and found the men waiting and they began swearing at him, he said. He went back into the cafe to avoid anything and when he returned fifteen minutes later he found the men still waiting. One told the other to shoot him. One of the men had something in his

hand which looked like a revolver but later proved to be a hammer, Fitzpatrick said. When he saw this object he ran up the street. The men followed him calling out, "stop that n—r." One overtook him and knocked him down with the hammer and the other used a knife to cut him.

~~SEP 21 1941~~
Assailant Cut

By this time, Fitzpatrick said, a group of persons, all white, consisting of about five hundred were crying out "kill him."

Fitzpatrick said that he had a knife in his pocket and when the men attempted to cut him a second time he pulled it out and cut one of them so badly that he was sent to the hospital. He is reported to be suffering from a punctured lung.

Victim Jailed

The police officers arrived while the men were ganging up on Fitzpatrick and it was necessary to threaten the mob with their firearms before the officers could disperse the crowd. As the policemen took Fitzpatrick to the squad car many people in the group kicked at him, he said.

He told the officers that the men had a knife and a hammer and had attacked him but they did not stop to search them and, instead, took him to jail and charged him with assault with a deadly weapon. ~~SEP 21 1941~~

Fitzpatrick is now out on bail awaiting trial which was continued to September 24.

Ira A. Williams, president of the Chicago Branch of the NAACP said legal representatives would furnish Fitzpatrick and that for being released are exceptionally good a full investigation of the case with this judge.

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

Wabash Avenue Court

AT Forty-eighth street and Wabash avenue is a police station and a Branch of the Municipal court which serves, for the most part, colored people on the South Side. At one time it was reputed to have more police business than any other station in the world. That may or may not be true, now. Besides, it is not particularly significant whether it is the largest or busiest police station in the world. What is important is the manner in which it is operated. On that point we should like to view with alarm some of the conditions of that court and jail.

Briefly, the station is a place where justice is bought and sold; where politicians confer with judges for the release of criminals; and where one may procure (off the record, of course) anything from a peremptory injunction to temporary alimony.

It may be said in passing that there are several types of judges who sit on the bench during the regular circuit that brings all the Municipal Court judges to the Wabash avenue court during various periods in their tenures. There is the judge who is serious and thinks that justice ought to be dispensed according to law and order. He is seldom in the good graces of the politicians.

There is the judge who takes it for granted that justice for Negroes should take on a different color than for other people so he goes about dispensing it according to the way he is feeling. A man may come into his courtroom and admit a crime but if he acts like the typical Uncle Tom his chances for being released are exceptionally good will be made by the branch.

As for the minor officials attached to the court and station it has been found that their efficiency is increased in direct proportion to the financial contributions made to them by those who are in want of justice. For instance, if you want a warrant issued you may have no difficulty in obtaining it and getting the judge's name attached thereto. But when you come to get it served on the defendant that may be a different story for it has often been said that the defendant may pay to forestall arrest and the warrant may go unserved and remain in the pocket of some police officer. On the other hand, the complaining witness may be told that the matter can be "rushed" if matters are taken care of in those regards wherein a couple of dollars will usually expedite matters, according to veterans who frequent the police station. They also say that when the

defendant and complaining witness both make their contributions then the law prevails and each side obtains justice.

One other noticeable defect about the administration of justice at that court is the physical inability of the assistant state's attorney who is attached to that court to give most effective service because of a hearing defect. His superior would be acting for the good of the people if he be sent to a different department or court where his duties will not be so arduous and where hearing will not be so imperative. ~~SEP 14 1941~~

There is much to be done in the administration of justice at Wabash avenue station. One who has to appear there may be surprised at the apparent tardiness of the judge who may arrive at court anywhere from 9:30 to 12:30. It would be a good start if those who are interested in the efficient administration would begin on this phase of the work.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Uncover Vice

Den In Search Of Two Girls

CHICAGO—(ANP)—Policemen of the fourth district made a raid upon two vice dens on the south side last week in search of two girls who had been missing from their homes for over a fortnight. The two girls whom the officers were searching for were Yvonne Jean ReChard, 14, and Janith Reese, 18. Yvonne had been missing from home since October 15. The parents of Janith had not seen her since the latter part of September.

Both girls were found Wednesday lying across a bed in a one-room apartment in company with Isaac Byed, 19 and John Earl, 19. All were disrobed. The finding of the girls climaxed a three-day search carried on by Policewoman Rachael Bright, who, accompanied by Officers Thomas and McGuire, went to the apartment and threatened to break in the door when no response was made to their first knocks. Lieut. Robert Harness had assigned Mrs. Bright to the case with instructions to see it through. ~~OCT 26 1941~~

The first raid, also led by Police-woman Bright, accompanied by Detectives Joseph Krisan and Michael Brennan, was made Tuesday on the roach-infested two-room apartment of Charles Montgom-

ery, 22. Here policemen found marijuana weed and \$200 worth of morphine pellets cached about the place. Montgomery was placed under arrest for violating the narcotic act.

A policeman was kept posted in the flat to answer the door and admit all comers into the flat. During the time the officer was stationed at the flat, over 40 youths were admitted, and subsequently placed under arrest. Among those arrested were Leola Hayes 14; Christine Everett, 18; Doris Patterson, 18; Joseph Greer, Jr., 19; Sidney Duberry, 22; Alfred Jones, 26; John Brandon, 20; Allen Young, 22; Willie Parker, 19; and John Thompson, 19.

All were arraigned Friday morning before Judge J. M. Braude in women's court, while government investigators probed the narcotic angle with a view to bringing federal charges against the defendants, especially Montgomery Byed, whom police charged with seducing 14-year-old Yvonne ReChard, will be charged with statutory rape. ~~OCT 26 1941~~

The Reese girl's mother fought bravely to hold back tears Wednesday night when she accompanied police to Montgomery's apartment where she gathered numerous pieces of her daughter's wearing apparel and stuffed them into a shopping bag.

Besides two pounds of refined marijuana weed and the morphine, over 100 marijuana cigarettes (reefers), morphine needles, a screen through which marijuana was graded and paper and capsules in which the dope was packed for sale was uncovered by police in Montgomery's apartment.

15-1941

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

NEGROES RALLY

TODAY TO FIGHT VICE AND CRIME

NOV 30 1941

Ministers Lead Fight on
Delinquency.

A campaign to purge the south central district of vice and crime will be launched at a massmeeting of Negro citizens at 3:30 o'clock this afternoon in the Metropolitan Community church, 4100 South Park way. The drive, which will be led by outstanding colored churchmen, is aimed particularly at curbing juvenile delinquency.

The rally is sponsored by the Community Ministers and Christian Workers' alliance, of which the Rev. Joseph M. Evans is chairman. It has the endorsement of the Chicago Interdenominational Council of Negro Churches presided over by Bishop James A. Bray of the Colored Methodist church.

NOV 30 1941
Clergy Back Drive.

A committee of churchmen is backing the meeting because they agree that "the church and its militant membership should head a crusade for common decency in the community, respect for the rights of others, and some consideration of law and order, so essential to our better living conditions."

Scheduled to speak at the meeting are the Rev. R. H. Collins Lee, pastor of the Walters AME Zion church and chairman of the Interdenominational council's commission on law and order; the Rev. Archibald J. Carey Jr., who has been campaigning against vice in the Woodlawn community; the Rev. J. M. Foster, president of one of the Baptist alliances; the Rev. Ira Hendon, pastor of the Morning Star Baptist church; the Rev. J. H. Jackson, recently appointed pastor of Olivet Baptist church, and A. L. Foster and Frayser Lane of the Chicago Urban league.

Ask Investigation of "Policy."

Recently members of the alliance

and of the Chicago Ministerial Fellowship and Service league passed resolutions calling upon State's Attorney Thomas J. Courtney to include "policy" in the general investigation of gambling which is being conducted by the grand jury.

Negro leaders charge that investigations of various types on vice and crime never reach the Negro communities.

Chicago Tribune
Chicago, Illinois

COLORED HELPER

VANISHES WITH \$45,000 IN JEWELS

William H. Davis had an appointment yesterday to meet Charles Lee, colored, in the Mallers building, 5 South Wabash avenue, shortly before

MAR 6 1941

Davis, 44 years old, of Yonkers, N. Y., a diamond salesman for the New York jewelry firm of Stern and Stern, Inc., told Sgt. Thomas Alcock of the jewelry detail that he arrived in Chicago Saturday from Detroit, Mich., for his usual visits to jewelry firms here.

Davis made several calls Monday, with Lee carrying the sample cases, which Davis said were heavy. Yesterday morning the pair made a call at 168 North State street, then parted. Lee was instructed to meet Davis in the Mallers building 45 minutes later. When Lee failed to appear Davis called police. Davis said he had been with the jewelry firm for 23 years. The loss is covered by insurance, he said.

ILLINOIS

15-1941

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

\$203 PAID ON \$5 DEBT; STILL OWES THE \$5

2 Whites Held On Bond For Violating State's

Small Loan Law

DEC 27 1941

MINDEN, La. Talking about Ripley's "Believe It or Not," here is one which makes Ripley's curious and startling facts pale into utter insignificance.

The revelations ~~of~~ a ~~Negro~~ description, but, according to reports, this is but one of many cases typical of what is generally practiced on ignorant, poverty-stricken Negroes in Southern sections.

The incredible facts follow:

Charges of demanding and collecting exorbitant interest rates for sums of money loaned to Negro mill employees of the Southern Kraft paper mill near Springhill, in violation of the Louisiana Small Loan Act, have been filed against Keith Hicks of Cotton Valley and Hick Russell of Cullen. The charges were filed by District Attorney G. K. Kitchens.

On Saturday, Dec. 13, a \$1200 bond was made for Hicks, who has six charges filed against him. Originally, the bond was set at \$3,000, but was later reduced to \$1,200. Bond for Russell ~~against whom~~ three charges were filed was set at \$1,500.

Hicks and Russell were scheduled to be arraigned here Tuesday morning. The two men were arrested Friday, Dec. 12, following an investigation of the alleged violations made by the district attorney and Deputy Sheriff E. Newberry. According to the district attorney and sheriff, the investigation revealed that the alleged loan racket had been going on since January 1939.

Weekly Payments Increase

While only one crew at the mill was questioned in the investigation, District Attorney Kitchens said he had discovered strong evidence to support the belief that "the practice

LOUISIANA

of charging exorbitant rates on small loans is a general practice among colored employes at the paper mill was widespread."

One case at point, that of Major Harris, Negro mill employee, and which is typical of the widespread practice in charging and collecting "exorbitant interest rates on small loans, was revealed in the bills of information filed in the case against Hicks and Russell.

In this particular case, the Negro mill worker, Major Harris, is alleged to have borrowed \$5.00 from Russell in January 1939, under an agreement that he (Harris) was to pay an interest rate of \$1.25 per week. Harris lived up to the contract, he said.

Harris claims he thereafter paid \$1.25 each week of 1939, that he paid \$1.50 each week during 1940 and \$1.25 per week during 1941 up to the time he ceased making payments, which is alleged to have been by far for the major part of this year. With the exception of two weeks during which he was ill, Harris said he had made all weekly payments in keeping with his agreement.

DEC 27 1941

Disclose 470 Percent Increase

Harris stated that Russell informed him on Nov. 22, 1941, that he (Harris) still owed him (Russell) \$23.50 on the \$5 loan made in January 1939.

Figuring that Harris paid the \$1.25 interest rate during each of the 48 other weeks of 1939, would bring his total interest paid (without reducing the principal, \$5.00) to \$70 interest on \$5.00 in 1939.

Then, figuring that he paid \$1.50 during each of the 52 weeks in 1940, would make Harris pay \$78 during 1940 on the same \$5.00 loan without reducing the \$5.00 loan made him by Russell in January 1939.

Then, figuring that Harris paid \$1.25 in 44 weeks during 1941 on the same \$5.00 loan made in January 1939, would bring the total interest paid during these 44 weeks to \$55. That would make the total interest paid on \$5 as per the above figuring come to \$200.

By deducting \$1.50 for two weeks during which Harris says he was ill, would still leave the total interest paid on the \$5.00 loan made in 1939 to stand at exactly \$200. On the other hand, the \$23.50 which Russell allegedly claims Harris still owes him makes the \$5 loan increase exactly 470 per cent, notwithstanding the \$200 paid on interest on the loan.

DEC 27 1941

15-1941

afro-american
Baltimore, Maryland

White Man Admits Attack on Woman: Is Fined \$26

BALTIMORE it because you became angry when you found your buddy closely voice and using perfect English in a manner that made spectators raise their eyebrows like the sight that met his eyes suspiciously. A white worker admitted in Central police court, Wednesday, that he had assaulted Mrs. Annie Singleton by saying that she had lied on him when she told the 48, 8 S. Bond Street, "because I'm about a woman being in the room."

Speaking in a soft, well-modulated voice and using perfect English in a manner that made Rothchild admitted that he didn'tspectators raise their eyebrows like the sight that met his eyes suspiciously. A white worker admitted in Central police court, Wednesday, that he had assaulted Mrs. Annie Singleton by saying that she had lied on him when she told the 48, 8 S. Bond Street, "because I'm about a woman being in the room."

The magistrate drew from the defendant the admission that he has lived with the other man for some time and that they have argued before.

Present at the hearing, but not called on to testify, was Mrs. Singleton's 14-year-old daughter, a Dunbar High School junior, who is awaiting trial in juvenile court for stabbing the man, Maurice DeRothchild, in an effort to protect her mother.

DeRothchild was finally fined \$26 and costs and ordered placed under \$100 bail as a State's witness to appear at the young girl's trial next Monday.

The girl, an eleventh-grade pupil of Dunbar High, was detained in Central police station for two days until released on Monday in the custody of her lawyer, W. A. C. Hughes, Jr., interested in the case on behalf of the NAACP.

Assaulted Roommate, Also

Witnesses testified that DeRothchild assaulted his roommate and the latter's female acquaintance when he unsuspectingly found them partially disrobed in his room at 722 E. Baltimore Street on Saturday afternoon.

After fighting with the couple, DeRothchild went to a second-floor room in which Mrs. Singleton, a maid in the rooming house, and her daughter were sitting. The man seized Mrs. Singleton, swore at her and then struck her in the mouth, testimony revealed.

It was at this point that the daughter picked up a butcher knife and plunged it into his side.

Man Faces Four Counts

Central district police charged the girl with assault and cited her for a hearing on Monday. The man was charged with three assault accounts and disturbing the peace.

Facing these charges, DeRothchild was asked pointblank by Magistrate Elmer Hammer, "Why did you assault this couple? Why did you assault a maid? Was

MARYLAND

afro-american
Baltimore, Maryland

Woman Attacked on Bus, Blames Driver's Neglect

BALTIMORE—A vicious and unwarranted attack by unidentified white man, while she was a passenger on a Baltimore Transit Company bus Sunday afternoon, with which the driver declined to interfere, was described to the AFRO Monday by Mrs. London Whitted of 645 Calhoun Street.

Mrs. Whitted, who was en route to Rose Hill on the Glendon bus, said she was sitting quietly in her seat when the attack occurred, between 5:30 and 6 p.m. An elderly white woman was the only other passenger.

The attacker, she said, came up to her without cause or warning, struck her in the mouth, grabbed her by the arm and breast and otherwise molested her.

Driver Failed to Act

She said that the white driver merely turned to the man and said "Why don't you let that woman alone? What are you after her for?"

Mrs. Whitted further stated that she finally had to ask the driver to stop and let her off, walking the remaining distance to her destination. However, she was able to secure the number of the bus which she reported was 534-9M.

Police "Indifferent"

She told the AFRO that the incident was reported to the Pikesville police who immediately inquired as to her color and then informed her that nothing could be done, but that she could call Northern police station.

She said that a Northern district officer contacted her and took her statement and a description of the man, whom she said was about 60 years old, 5 feet 11 and had a bandage on a finger of his right hand.

In addition, she said, he did not pay a fare, but exhibited a pass when he got on the bus.

Transit Company Questioned

A call to the Baltimore Transit Company by an AFRO reporter also brought an inquiry as to the race of the victim. Asked what part this played in the company's

15-1941

MASSACHUSETTS

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Couple Beat Negro Domestic, Acquitted

MAR 4 1941

Case Arouses Community in South Boston; Negro Servant Attacked When She Tried To Quit Over Low Wages

(Special to the Daily Worker) MAR 4 1941

BOSTON, March 3.—Indignation is running high in the Negro community of South Boston over the latest unpunished act of brutality following yesterday's acquittal by Judge John T. Comerford in Municipal Court of two well-to-do residents of fashionable Brookline on charges of non-payment of wages and assault and battery against a Negro girl employed by them as a domestic.

Mrs. Dorothy E. Brown, the domestic, was beaten severely around the face and chest and hurled to the floor several times by Mr. and Mrs. Chester Barstow, her employers, when after resenting Mrs. Barstow's petty and unwarranted abuse, she informed them that she would no longer work for them and asked for her wages.

Because of the seriousness of her injuries following this vicious and brutal assault, Mrs. Brown was confined to her bed for several days.

MAR 4 1941
CHARGES DISMISSED

The police officer who was called to the home testified that he found the girl in a bruised and bloody condition and made the astounding admission that he did not file a report at his precinct station. The defense claimed that tiny Mrs. Brown had attacked her two burly employers.

The action of Judge Comerford in dismissing the charges against the white employers has incensed the entire community as a gross miscarriage of justice. The New England Congress for Equal Opportunities, which interested itself in the case from the beginning, mobilized the people for the defense and court trial, plans to make this whole question of discrimination and victimization of the Negro people a central point of discussion at its coming statewide conference at Lincoln Hall, Boston on March 9.

MAY 3 1941
Unsung hero in the case is Levi G. Byrd, treasurer of the Cheraw branch

of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People who endangered his life to notify the Boston branch and national office of NAACP of the case and to urge that they act to prevent Ford from being returned to South Carolina.

Private Ford has returned to Camp Edwards near here where he enlisted after fleeing an angry Southern mob. He was accused of having assaulted with intent to kill, Frank Stokes, of Cheraw. Ford was attacked on a Cheraw street by Stokes and several other white men who kicked and beat him. In self defense he slashed Stokes with a knife, escaped and made his way to Camp Edwards where the South Carolina police followed him with demands for his return to that state.

15-1941

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

ACQUIT MAN ACCUSED BY WHITE WOMAN

MAR 8 1941

**Jack Southern Must Now
Face Second Charge
Of Pandering**

MUSKEGON, Mich. — Jack Southern, 32-year-old musician, was acquitted here Tuesday, Feb. 25, of one of two charges of pandering brought against him by the State of Michigan on the complaint of Miss Carroll Terrill, 27, a white woman. Circuit Judge Joseph F. Sanford and an all-white jury of three women and nine men heard the testimony on the same day the verdict was reached.

After the verdict, Southern, however, was recommitted to jail in default of a \$3500 bail in the case still pending. The complainant in this case is also a white woman.

Southern was specifically charged with accepting \$21 from Miss Terrill, knowing she had earned this money through prostitution. The prosecution had 14 witnesses on hand. MAR 8 1941

Southern was defended by Floyd H. Skinner, former assistant attorney general.

The state called three of its witnesses, one of whom was Miss Terrill. The story of how Miss Terrill, who is married, allegedly gave Southern the \$21 in three payments was corroborated by the other two witnesses. Immediately the state rested its case, hoping to use the other witnesses in rebuttal after Southern's testimony.

In his cross-examination, Attorney Skinner brought out several points relative to the character of Miss Terrill. (1) She had given birth to an illegitimate child before her marriage. (2) She lived with her husband only a short time, and has since lived with three different men. (3) During all this time she had been a prostitute.

Attorney Skinner attempted to discredit the testimony of the other state's witnesses in this same manner, stating that persons of such character could not have respect for truth.

The defense introduced three witnesses who testified that Southern was not in Muskegon at the time the money was allegedly paid to him. MAR 8 1941

With a suddenness that stunned every one, Attorney Skinner rested his case without having called Southern to testify.

This bit of strategy prevented the state from calling the rest of its witnesses, the majority of whom were young white women who were to charge that Southern took money from them knowing how they had earned it, and that he had occasionally beaten them and threatened them with a knife.

The jury was out less than 90 minutes before returning the verdict of not guilty. Had he been found guilty, Southern would have faced a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison.

It is reported that the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People was pleased with the verdict and may help fight the case now pending on the ground that Southern should never have been brought to trial on the accusations of persons of the character of the complaining witnesses.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Louis' Co-Manager Convicted By Jury

DEC 17 1941

Bishop B. J. Sheil greeting five colored parolees from Pontiac when they arrived at C. Y. O. hotel to live. The parolees, left to right: Frank Gales, Edward Kirkland, Roy Buckhalter, Robert Hunter, and R. G. Cooksey.

DETROIT—(S N S)—John Roxborough, co-manager of Heavyweight Boxing Champion Joe Louis, was one of 23 persons convicted Monday night in the 3-month old Wayne County numbers conspiracy trial.

Former Detroit Mayor Richard W. Reading was among those found guilty by a jury of eight women and four men after 18½ hours of deliberation.

Besides Roxborough, alleged operator of a policy syndicate, and Former Mayor Reading, the following were convicted: John P. McCarthy, suspended police Lieutenant Arthur Ryckman, suspended

police inspector; Elmer (Buff) Ryan, alleged gambler and handbook wire service operator, and Everett Watson, reputed czar of the Detroit numbers racket. Also found guilty were 10 suspended police officers and seven men accused of being gamblers and policy house employees.

Former Mayor Reading was accused by former Police Inspector Raymond W. Boettcher of accepting \$55,000 protection money from gambling.

MICHIGAN



[TRIBUNE Photo.]

MICHIGAN

15-1941

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

\$10,000 Sought From Sheriff In Death Of Husband

MAGNOLIA, Miss.—(ANP)—Suit was filed recently in Pike county chancery court by Atty. J. E. Franklin, Jackson, Miss., seeking \$10,000 judgment against Sheriff L. G. Holyfield, Rankin county, and the United Fidelity and Guaranty company for the death of Eddie Adams. The suit was for use of Rosa Adams, administratrix of the estate of the deceased Adams, and is in the name of the state of Mississippi.

The bill of complaint alleges that L. G. Holyfield was elected sheriff of Rankin County in the 1939 general election, posting a \$10,000 bond as surety with the United States Fidelity and Guaranty company.

It further sets forth that Holyfield appointed Prentiss Taylor and E. W. Richborough as deputy sheriffs, and that on September 21, 1940, Eddie Adams was shot and killed by the sheriff or one of his deputies while they were searching for intoxicating liquor in the woods surrounding the Gold Coast area.

This area described in the bill as being located on the western board of Rankin county near Jackson, a thickly populated area consisting of many different kinds of business enterprises, establishmdnts, night clubs, etc.

Allegations made in the bill state that Adams and two Negroes were seated at the foot of a steep embankment on highway 49 when the officers opened fire on them. It holds that after Adams was shot and injured he was subjected to inhuman treatment and was then thrown in jail.

He was transferred from the jail to his home in Jackson on September 22 because he had become seriously ill. The next day he was admitted to Baptist Hospital in Jackson where he died on September 28.

The bill claims that his death was the result of gross carelessness, negligence and unlawful conduct on the part of the defendants, L. G. Holyfield, Prentiss Taylor and E. W. Richborough. The case will be taken up by Chancellor R. W. Cut-

MISSISSIPPI

work at the time, stated that Ball apparently became frightened by the challenge of the guard. He stated that the guard had acted under strict orders to give warning shots to anyone advancing after being ordered to halt and then to shoot with the intention of hitting.

Commercial Appeal
Memphis, Tennessee

NEGRO SHOT BY SENTRY AT BROOKHAVEN PLANT

DEC 11 1941

Soldier Acts Under Orders
While On Guard

Special to The Commercial Appeal

BROOKHAVEN, Miss. Dec. 10.—Daniel Ball, Brookhaven negro, was shot late Tuesday afternoon by a soldier of the 145th Infantry, a detachment of which is stationed in Brookhaven to guard communications, power plant and factories.

Ball, who was walking along with a wooden box in his hand, through a guarded and prohibited section near the power plant, was challenged and told several times to turn back. He persisted, however, and struck the guard with the wooden box. He then ran into a nearby building, the guard firing three times into the ground in an effort to make him halt. As other guards went after Ball, he ran out and was shot by the sentry, the bullet striking him in the hip. He kept running for some time despite the wound before he was overtaken.

Lieut. C. W. Morrow, in charge of the detachment here, administered first aid to Ball. He was then examined by Dr. Arrington and taken to The King's Daughters' Hospital here where his injury was adjudged to be not serious.

Lieutenant Morrow, who questioned the negro, an employee of the compress en route home from

15-1941

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

**GOVERNOR PARDONS
MAID AT MANSION**

OCT 18 1941

JACKSON, Miss., Oct. 16—(ANP)—Fannie Walden, of Holmes county Miss., who had been serving life sentence for murder since July, 1921, and since the inauguration of Gov. Paul B. Johnson has been maid at the executive mansion here, was granted a full pardon recently.

The pardon, signed by Governor Johnson on September 12, was one of 22 clemency actions filed during the week-end at the secretary of State's office. It stated that she deserves executive clemency." It was reported that Fannie Walden had left Jackson the day the pardon was signed.

MISSISSIPPI

15-1941

MISSISSIPPI

Greenville, Miss.
Demo-Times, Jan. 15, '41

NEGRO CRIME: A CORRECTION AND ELABORATION

In our editorial condemning the leniency of the courts and law enforcement officers of the Delta in cases of violence and murder between Negroes, we did Scott Thompson, the county prosecuting attorney, an injustice.

We said that the county prosecuting attorney may, with the consent of the presiding judge, change a murder charge to a charge of manslaughter. That is not a fact. He may do this in county court, but he may not do it in circuit court — the court in which the Braxton case we described was heard. The discretion in circuit court belongs to the district attorney, Earl Thomas of Belzoni. The information upon which our statement was made was obtained from a member of the bar who has had long experience, and whose knowledge we did not question. Perhaps he misunderstood the question we asked him.

The editorial did not, however, intend to single out Mr. Thompson or any other individual for criticism, except insofar as those individuals contribute to the prevailing attitude. Nor did we intend to imply in any manner that any individuals are guilty of incompetence or corruption.

The courts and the law enforcement officers of the Delta (and the South) are victims of indifference to internecine Negro violence, an indifference resulting from long standing custom and a misinterpretation of the Negro's psychology and his morals. They have reasoned that because the incidence of violence between Negroes is high, it is a freak of their nature and little or nothing can be done about it, and that it really makes little difference anyway.

That argument, we think, is invalid. If the price of a Negro life were raised, there would be fewer willing to pay for the taking. Mr. Thompson would agree, we think, that we have generally been too lenient with Negro murderers. He certainly agrees that the comparable punishment the courts inflict upon the white man is more severe. Mr. Thomas, probably, would also agree that that is true.

Our courts need to make a re-appraisal. The men who prosecute, the juries who sit in trial, the judges who agree to compromises and impose sentences are on the whole good men, trying to solve a hard knot in the tangle of Negro-white relationships — the Delta's most intricately delicate problem. We need to take another look at Negro crime and its results, instead of bumping along the same old ruts of indifference, cynicism and apathy.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Youth Arrested For Rifle Shooting Of White Boy Released

JACKSON, Miss.—R. I. McComers, 16 year old youth, 406 Varnado Street, the son of Mrs. Emma Wilkerson and employee in the home of Assistant Postmaster Dent, who was arrested for shooting a white youth with an air rifle here Saturday was released on his own recognizance in the police court hearing Monday.

The shooting occurred when a crowd of boys, including R. L. were shooting birds with air rifles near his home, when Paul McCraw, age 15, came suddenly in the line of aim of his rifle as he attempted to cross an open end of the street, being shot in the hip by accident.

The youth, R. L. McComers charged with the shooting, went to court alone and was released Monday but told to come back Tuesday.

Commercial Appeal
Memphis, Tennessee

NEGRO ROBBER HUNTED FOR BEATING WOMAN

MAR 7 - 1941
Mrs. Randall Of Meridian In
Critical Condition

Special to The Commercial Appeal
MERIDIAN, Miss., March 6.—Following an assault Wednesday night by an unidentified negro, Mrs. Mary Randall, Thursday was in a critical condition at the Matty Hersee Hospital. Police were continuing their search for her assailant.

MAR 7 - 1941
The woman, walking alone in the residential section, was attacked at 47th Avenue by the negro, who first knocked her down and took her purse. The negro then dragged his victim to where the light was comparatively dim, struck her several blows, and attempted to commit a statutory offense.

Mrs. Randall's shrieks terrified residents of that section, who tele-

phoned the police. One side of her nose was badly cut, and she suffered lacerations of the scalp.

Commercial Appeal
Memphis, Tennessee
HAT TRAPS FIRE SETTER
MAR 1 1941
Negro Confesses Starting Blaze

That Did Great Damage

TUPELO, Miss., Feb. 28 — Identification as his property of a soiled felt hat found at the scene of an incendiary store fire Tuesday led to the jailing Thursday of a 40-year-old negro "pyromaniac" accused of starting a series of blazes which resulted in "15 to 25 thousand dollars" damage to Verona, Miss., buildings the last two years.

MAR 1 1941
The negro, Muriel Morris, an ex-convict of near Verona, confessed to setting the fires after he was confronted with the hat, previously identified by his four children as his. Will T. Griffin, Memphis detective agency head, said.

"Morris admitted in a sworn statement to me and Sheriff Will Inmon of Tupelo, Miss., that he fired seven structures with kerosene 'just because he had a feeling to do something like that whenever he got drunk,'" Mr. Griffin said. "Four of the seven, one store and three barns, were destroyed; the other fires were extinguished."

The fires all were started in property owned by T. O. Earl and Gilmer Gorman of Verona, Mr. Griffin said.

Commercial Appeal
Memphis, Tennessee

17 NEGRO PRISONERS ESCAPE AT PARCHMAN

DEC 31 1941
Three Recaptured, Others Are
Reported Located

PARCHMAN, Miss., Dec. 30.—Supt. M. P. Lowry Love of the state penitentiary said Tuesday 17 negro convicts had sawed their way out of one of the prison camps during the night but that three had been recaptured.

"We have several more spotted on a plantation about six miles from the penitentiary," he said. "I don't think it will be long before we have them all. We are using only our own men in the search."

Mr. Love said hacksaw blades apparently were smuggled in to the prisoners.

"There weren't any long-termers, but two or three pretty bad boys among them," he added.

The superintendent would not re-

Commercial Appeal
Memphis, Tennessee

NEGRO SENT TO JAIL, ANOTHER ONE BEATEN

MAR 20 1941
Cab Driver Gets Year From
Meridian Justice

Special to The Commercial Appeal
MERIDIAN, Miss., March 9.—A negro taxi driver, charged with accosting two white girls, started a year's sentence with a \$200 fine attached, imposed by Justice W. F. Lancaster in justice court, and another negro hackman, a spectator at the trial, was severely thrashed by white men for what they said was making an insulting remark regarding the character of one of the white girls, who testified at the trial.

Elihu Fikes, 36-year-old negro taxi operator, who was arrested Saturday for attempting to entice a white girl into his taxi, was convicted on two charges of disturbing the peace.

When sentence had been passed, the second negro taxi driver, a spectator, turned to a white man beside him and said:

"You know, they're doing the colored people wrong in this town. They done convicted that man now." He made further remarks reflecting on the complainants' characters.

MAR 20 1941
The negro had spoken quietly, and only a few of the white men knew what he had said, but news of his remarks spread rapidly through the throng. When the negro reached the bottom of the stairs leading to the justice of the peace's office, he was met, beaten and "stomped" until his face and body were covered with blood. Officers had not come downstairs from the courtroom when the attack occurred.

F. K. Ethridge Jr., attorney for Fikes, unsuccessfully tried to have the trial behind closed doors with the public excluded.

Commercial Appeal
Memphis, Tennessee

ASSAILANT IS HUNTED BY COLUMBUS POSSE

MAR 14 1941

Negro Sought After Police
Chief Hit With Ax

Special to The Commercial Appeal

COLUMBUS, Miss., March 13.—Columbus and Lowndes County officers, state highway patrolmen and several hundred citizens, heavily armed, late Thursday combed South Columbus seeking a former negro convict who, Thursday afternoon seriously wounded Police Chief J. Bradley Partain.

Bloodhounds were to be put on the trail of the negro, Percy Russell, who allegedly struck the officer with an ax when Chief Partain and Policeman Gus Cunningham attempted to arrest him on a charge of possessing liquor.

Chief Partain received a concussion and possible skull fracture. His condition was described as not immediately dangerous.

A posse quickly formed and searched a large cotton compress in the neighborhood and then spread to the outskirts of the city.

Russell was only recently released from the county farm where he served a term. Officers attempted to arrest him last Saturday night but he escaped after a running battle. Police received a tip Thursday that he was in a house near the compress, but the negro, apparently expecting trouble, lashed out with the ax at close quarters before the officers could draw guns.

Commercial Appeal
Memphis, Tennessee

FIVE NEGROES HELD AS THEFT SUSPECTS

MAR 13 1941

One Leads Officers Wild Chase
In Auto

GRENADA, Miss., March 12.—Five negroes, one a reported ex-convict, were arrested here Wednesday afternoon by the Mississippi State Highway Patrol and local police, breaking up what is believed to have been an automobile theft ring.

One of the negroes, Charlie Holloway of Senatobia, eluded the officials, taking Deputy Matt Cooley's gun and \$75, forcing him from the car and racing the automobile toward Calhoun City.

Two patrolmen, W. W. Smith and J. M. Barry, with the co-oper-

ation of Shed Ashmore, who was taken to show the way, chased the negro from Grenada to Calhoun City, then to Eupora, before overtaking him. The negro abandoned the car and took refuge in a cotton gin, but the patrolmen forced his affairs evidently undisturbed. him to surrender and brought him back to Grenada.

Mr. Cooley's car was damaged by pistol shots in the chase.

The negro was reported to have been released from Parchman Feb. 7 after serving 18 years. Upon questioning, he revealed he had stolen the car and two others were in when stopped by Marshal Willard Odom, and that he had hidden another car near Independence. Officers took him to that city in an effort to locate the other automobile. The car held here is reported to be the property of G. H. Jones, Independence mail carrier. Five license plates were found in the car.

Sam Stephenson, one-legged negro from Winona, and Erzel Ponner, New York, were in the car when the local marshal started the chase. They were arrested and told officials that two other negroes, Sango Harvey and Louise Scott, Winona, came to this city with them and were here. The couple was taken into custody immediately.

Twenty-three patrolmen were here at a safety meeting, and each took a part in the chase for the culprits.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

LETTERS THREATEN DEATH TO BEN GREEN

MAR 29 1941

MOUND BAYOU, Miss., Mar. 27—(ANP)—Mayor Ben A. Green of Mound Bayou has been the recipient of two extortion notes during the past week. The first, left under a brick at the entrance of his office on the main street of this little all Negro city, demanded that he produce \$1,000 to save his life.

The mayor was asked to meet the 11 o'clock train at the Illinois Central railroad station as an indication he would comply with the demand. Since "meeting the train" is one of the routine social events of the day, the mayor went but saw no indication of the note sender.

Times-Picayune
New Orleans, La.

PRISONERS LOCK UP JAILER, FLEE GULFPORT PRISON

MAR 20 1941

Three Overpower Night
Man and Escape; Officers

Are Warned

(The Associated Press)
Gulfport, Miss., March 19.—Three Negro prisoners, held in the Harrison county jail at Gulfport pending action of the June grand jury, this morning overpowered Night Jailer William Ruble and after locking him in a cell with other prisoners, fled to the ground floor and escaped through the main door.

The fugitives, identified by Sheriff R. C. Edwins as Wilbert Griffin, 16 years old; Charles Zanders, 23, and Alfred Franklin, 17, were unable to persuade a half-dozen other Negroes to escape with them and made no effort to release the white prisoners, lodged across the hall in another cell block.

MAR 20 1941

Sheriff Edwins called state highway patrol headquarters and notified officers in surrounding counties to be on the lookout for the trio. Descriptions of the men were phoned to New Orleans and Mobile authorities and bridges at Bay St. Louis and Pascagoula were ordered blocked. Deputies and city police launched a systematic search of the county.

Zanders and Griffin were bound to the grand jury Tuesday by Justice of the Peace Charles N. Cruthirds following hearing on charges of assault and robbery on an aged Biloxi Negro Saturday. Zanders was described by officers as an ex-convict. Franklin was being held in connection with breaking and entering a Gulfport house recently.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Mound Bayou Mayor Gets Second Extortion Note

Commercial Appeal

Memphis, Tennessee

NEGORES OBTAIN BOND

Five Face Whitecapping Charge

At Gulfport

Special to The Commercial Appeal
GULFPORT, Miss., June 2.—Five negroes, arrested by local police over the past week end on charges of whitecapping in connection with alleged threats against fellow workers in the laundry and pressing club rades, were released here Monday under bond of \$500 each, after J. A. Simpson, New Orleans organizer for the C.I.O. had been escaped out of town by police officials.

The mayor was asked to meet the 11 o'clock train at the Illinois Central railroad station as an indication he would comply with the demand. Since "meeting the train" is one of the routine social events of the day, the mayor went but saw no indication of the note sender.

MAR 22 1941

Sunday morning another note was found near the mayor's office, reiterating the demand. A local character known as "City Slick" was picked up and questioned but no information was secured from him. The mayor is going about his affairs evidently undisturbed.

Commercial Appeal
Memphis, Tennessee

THREE NEGROES FLEE JAIL

MAR 20 1941

Lock Jailer In Cell In Escape At

Gulfport

GULFPORT, Miss., March 19.—Three negro prisoners, held in Harrison County Jail at Gulfport, pending action of the June Grand Jury, Wednesday morning overpowered Night Jailer W. W. (Bill) Ruble and after locking him in a cell with other prisoners, fled to the ground floor and escaped through the main door. The prisoners, identified by Sheriff R. C. Edwins as Wilbert Griffin, 16; Charles (Sam) Zanders, 23, and Alfred Franklin, 17, were unable to persuade a half-dozen negroes to escape with them, and made no effort to release the white prisoners, lodged across the hall in another cell block.

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MAR 25 1941

Mound Bayou Mayor Gets \$1,000 Extortion Note

Commercial Appeal

Memphis, Tennessee

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15-1941

MISSOURI

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Market Officer Insults

Policeman Calls One Man 'D—', Kicks Another

Officer John Coates, patrolman on duty at the city market, has been performing in a rude and insulting manner as he makes his rounds from stall to stall, according to reports received this week.

Two instances which the men who work around the market say are typical of Coates' actions follow:

Lawrence Taylor, 1607 East Tenth street, who is employed in the street cleaning department and assigned to the market area, was talking to a watermelon truck driver last Friday afternoon. In the course of the conversation, the truck driver whose name is unknown referred to Taylor as a "darky." Taylor objecting asking of the truck driver not "to call me a darky."

Officer Coates who was standing near by interrupted to ask, "Well what do you want him to call you?"

Taylor answered, "Call me colored or a Negro. Anything except 'darky.'"

Coates replied, "Well you are a 'darky.' I'm from the south and 'n—' are 'n—'. Do you think you are better than a white man?"

Taylor answered, "I think I'm just as good."

Officer Coates then shoved Taylor from the curbing and said that he was going to tell the street cleaning foreman to take Taylor off the job, that he didn't want a Negro working around him who thought he was as good as a white man.

Taylor reported the incident to the police department and to the street cleaning department.

Taylor said that Officer Coates did not strike him but that his attitude was insulting.

The other instance occurred Wednesday, Sept. 3, when Officer Coates is alleged to have kicked Walter Day, 1119 East Twenty-first street, who has worked for the DeFeo Fruit company at the market for 22 years. Day was picking bananas off the sidewalk where they had fallen when a crate broke. Officer Coates approached Day, told him to get off the sidewalk. When Day didn't move away as fast as the officer thought he should, Coates kicked him lightly on the leg. Several witnesses said that they saw the officer kick Day.

It was learned around the market that Officer Coates has tried unsuccessfully to get the DeFeo Fruit company to stop blocking the sidewalk with crates and boxes. "But he didn't have to kick a man about it. He should have gone to the owner," is the popular opinion.

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois
**Shoots Self In
Fake Holdup;
Blames Negro**

FEB 2 - 1940

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 30—(AP)—Michael Enzer, white Newark, N.J. salesman who reported to police Thursday that he was shot in the right shoulder and robbed of \$140 of his employer's funds by a Negro to whom he had given a lift in his automobile, admitted to detectives at city hospital later on that the robbery story was false, and that he had it himself to make it "look good".

He explained that he was in debt and decided on the robbery to raise money to help pay what he owed on his car. Police recovered the \$140 from a woman living in a downtown hotel, to whom Enzer had given it in a sealed envelope for safe-keeping.

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Washwomen Describe Battle That Started at the Finish

ST. LOUIS, July 1.—(AP)—A Negro woman, who had charged a neighbor with assault and battery, took the stand in court of criminal correction to tell what happened.

"Judge, your honor," she said, "it was like this. I was coming up the back stairs and she was coming down with her laundry. She said to me, 'If your little boy throws mud on this wash I'm goin' to whup him.' And if I whup him he's not goin' to like it. And if you don't like it I'm going to whup you. And I don't think you're goin' to like it so we might as well start now."

"And with that, judge, she drops the clothes basket and the fight begins."

Argus

St. Louis, Missouri

COMMITTEE ON CRIME

We were pleased to note the interest on the part of the public in the all-important subject "Youth And Crime". This interest, we think, was manifested by the attendance of some fifty people at the Ministers' Alliance Wednesday when plans for waging a war on crime took on a very definite shape. And judging from the experience coming from different leaders representing a cross-section of thought among our people, the time is ripe and all that is necessary now is to perfect the proper sort of organization to carry on this fight.

In the discussions of the subject, we regret to say there was a stinging indictment of the parents who are failing in their duty to their children. The sad part about this indictment was the fact that these parents evidently have little or no appreciation of their duty to themselves, their children or the communities in which they live. Therefore, in the near future a mass meeting will be held as another factor in disseminating among these people their duties and responsibilities as citizens of their communities. In this campaign it will be the purpose of the committee to make every citizen conscious of the part he or she should play in a common society. Then, too, we must find ways and means of reaching the many clubs, social and what not, in our effort to make the boys and girls conscious of their duties and responsibilities.

Over the paths of the past the experiences of thousands of human wrecks and the stories of the wretched are written in many books which tell us all that crime does not pay. And the sooner we can get that thought into the thinking of the youth the sooner we all will have a better place in which to live.

The toll for crime is a constant drain upon our society. The state penal institutions are crowded with the flower of the youth of our race whose potential earning power and potential intelligence which would contribute to race uplift are wasted. The financial loss runs into the millions of dollars and

the intellectual possibilities are innumerable. Statistics show that the boys and the girls who are most frequently in the toils of the law are those of little education. Somebody has failed to keep them in school. Most of them quit attending Sunday School before they reached the teen age and very, very few of them are active members of any kind of church. Somebody has failed to do his or her Christian duty. And a great majority of these children have records of truancy. Surely the Board of Education has failed in its duty toward the youth. Surely this is no time for dilly-dallying, passing the buck and saying "Let George do it". It is your duty, Mr. and Mrs. Citizen, to do your part in helping to make the city, the state and the nation a better place in which to live. Enlist now. This is not a mere skirmish or a battle—it is a war.

Globe and
Independent

Nashville, Tenn.

ST. LOUIS PASTORS WAGE CAMPAIGN ON CRIME WAVE IN CITY

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 16—(ANP)—Announcement of plans for a campaign for the suppression of "alarming increases" in the number of crimes by Negroes in this city was announced by the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance recently.

The alliance, composed of pastors of Negro churches here, will meet again October 22 to begin definite action against crime by sermon lectures, cooperation with law-enforcing agencies and possible organization of a law enforcement committee of Negro citizens.

President of the alliance and pastor of First Baptist church, the Rev. James M. Bracy, said that he had lived in St. Louis since 1918 and that crime among Negroes is now growing so fast that it must be stamped out. The intent of the campaign, he said, was not only to take action against known Negro criminals and crime but to get at the causes of crime by striving for better recreational facilities, improved economic conditions and rehabilitation of Negroes.

The Rev. W. A. Cooper, pastor of the Metropolitan AME Zion Church and chairman of the committee promoting the movement, asserted that a Negro vigilante committee might be organized to keep close watch on members of their race in various communities and to report to police officials any evidence of crime that is uncovered.

Pittsburgh Courier

Pittsburgh, Pa.

MAYOR STIRRED BY PROTEST; PETITIONS GIVEN TO ALDERMEN

DEC 13 1941

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 11—The Interdenominational Ministers' alliance, which several months ago, started something when they focused the attention of the public on the high rate of crime and presented a six-point program for civic betterment, is on the warpath again. High priced coal has been the re-

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Picked on the Wrong Man

The marine who paid with his life for molesting Negroes in St. Louis must have thought he was still stationed in Hayti, where the leathernecks did pretty much as they pleased back in the administration of President Wilson. Dogs bristle and fight when they first meet. It seems to be part of their ritual for getting acquainted. But American marines, accustomed to service in many lands, should take any stranger in stride and neither give nor take offense because he is different in race and color. It is hard to see what the St. Louis Negro could have done except defend himself.

DEC 5 1941

This marine must have been beside himself. But even at that he would not have struck a citizen without cause if he had not already been so minded. Had he been in the habit of treating men of another color with tolerance, even drunk he would not have done such an unusual act.

DEC 5 1941

The cure for an evil deed lies in education rather than in punishment. May the day hasten when the norm of conduct will be goodwill and cooperation instead of unrelenting competition and its consequent hates.

awry and the smoke is appearing here and there.

Wednesday, at its regular meeting, the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance went on record as endorsing a movement to find ways and means of bringing relief to members of the racial group who suffer because of the current high price of coal.

A letter was ordered sent to the Board of Aldermen asking if some processed coal, which could be sold at a reasonable price and which could meet the requirement of the anti-smoke ordinance, could not be secured and thereby bring relief to the great number of persons now suffering.

PETITIONS GIVEN

TO ALDERMEN

Immediately, Mayor Becker, who included the low cost of fuel in his campaign effort, came into the open and asserted that he was making plans, still in the preliminary stages, and that he had been discussing the possibilities of basket coal with department men and inspecting similar plans used in other cities.

Then, joining in the move were other groups. A petition was started, which, by the time the Board of Aldermen met Friday, had gained thousands of signatures pleading for cheaper coal that would meet the anti-smoke provisions and, at the same time, enable those in the lower brackets to purchase food as well as fuel.

When the aldermen met, three major proposals were submitted, all by Republican aldermen from wards with large segments of Negro voters.

DEC 7 1941

A bill by Alderman Thomas C. Turner of the 17th Ward proposed that a committee of seven be appointed to find a practical plan to reduce the price of coal.

Alderman Louis A. Lange of the Fifteenth proposed that an emergency declared under the provisions of the smokeless fuel ordinance, which would enable the Supply Commissioner to use the \$300,000 revolving fund to provide 80 pounds of coal, in a basket, for 20 cents. The present price is 20 cents and up.

A third resolution, by Alderman Edward L. Duke of the Twenty-third ward, proposed a committee be named to investigate the production, processing and distribution of coal to the end of lowering prices.

15-1941

MISSOURI

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

WHITE MAN HITS OFFICER: IS SHOT

APR 26 1941

ST. LOUIS, Mo., April 24.—After allegedly struck Deputy Constable Ira C. Dorsey in the face with his fist and threatened him with a revolver in an altercation over a Justice Court judgment on an unpaid beer bill, B. J. Stewart, white, owner of a tavern and room located at 1808-10 South Union Avenue, was shot twice in the abdomen by Constable Dorsey Monday afternoon. Though severely wounded, it is understood he is expected to recover. No charge have been brought against Constable who was accompanied at the time by Deputy Constable Harry Aston.

Following the shooting which occurred in Stewarts' establishment, the wounded man refused to discuss the affair with a newspaper reporter who is said to have told him he did not know at the time that Constables Dorsey and Aston were officers. Quizzed by authorities, Dorsey said that meeting Stewart outside the place of business, he and Aston told him that unless he paid his bill of \$64 and the costs of the judgment obtained against him by the concern that sold him the beer, they would have to close up his tavern.

APR 26 1941

Dorsey was quoted as saying that Stewart declared he would not pay his bill, and then went into the barroom, and that when he and Aston followed Stewart turned, struck him in the face with his fist and, going to a drawer, pulled a pistol from it and pointing it at him, then pulled the trigger. It was said, he said, that he drew his pistol and shot Stewart in defense.

15, 1941

NEW JERSEY

TRIBUNE
Philadelphia, Pa.
Mob Victims
APR 17 1941
Collect \$9,000
In Damages

NEW YORK, (ANP)—An unspecified amount of money running into "several hundred dollars" has been collected to date in behalf of the seven Negro migratory workers who in 1939 were beaten by an armed mob in Cranbury, N. J., and ordered out of town. David Robinson of Newark, attorney named by the Workers' Defense League to handle the cases, announced last week.

These collections, part of a federal jury award of \$9,000 won by the mob victims, have been made in spite of transfers of ownership, removals and departures from jobs by those found guilty. It is said that innumerable "legal" obstructions have been set up to hamper the full collection of the judgment.

The disappearance of O. D. Streetor, one of those originally brought up to pick potatoes in the Jersey town has been announced. His last known address is 410 N. W. 5th avenue, Fort Lauderdale, Fla. The WDL is seeking to determine his whereabouts.

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

The Case of Clinton Brewer

Early this year a prisoner in the New Jersey state penitentiary excited the music world with a number called "Stampede in G Minor." Swing kings from near and far hailed him as a genius. . . . John Hammond, Count Basie and others.

The composer's works were so good an immediate movement was begun to secure his release on parole, and as a result in late July Governor Edison granted Clinton Brewer his freedom.

Brewer has served more than half his life behind bars, having killed his wife when he was 17 years old. He was 38 when he was released. Brewer was "hot" when he reached Harlem. Folk in the amusement world gave him a glad hand. Count Basie agreed to use his arrangements and things loomed bright for the ex-convict.

Then last week a young woman's

body was found stuffed in a closet in her home. Brewer had been a friend of hers. He disappeared, and word was flashed throughout the country that Clinton Brewer, the ex-convict whose future had seemed so rosy was wanted for questioning. Those who had helped him hoped against hope that Brewer wasn't guilty, that he had been caught in a web of circumstances. They stood ready to come to his aid again. Then late Wednesday the Sheriff of Cherokee county in South Carolina wired New York that Brewer had been arrested and that he had confessed . . . confessed that he had killed a woman within less than three months after he had been freed from prison for killing another woman.

Nineteen years in prison had had its effect. The fact that Brewer was not able to rehabilitate himself is unfortunate. This hapless occurrence, however, should not serve as a bar against aid for others. On the other hand, care should be taken to see to it that individuals mentally diseased should not be released from penal institutions to mingle freely with the public. Obviously, Brewer was a mental case.

15-1941

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

CRIME OUTBREAK IN HARLEM SPURS DRIVE BY POLICE

Mayor Admits 'Bad Situation
in Area After 2 Killings—
Guard Is Increased

YOUTH SEEN RUNNING WILD

Boy Hoodlums Called the Chief
Offenders in Wave of Terror,
Especially in Parks

Following the fatal stabbing of a 15-year-old white boy by three Negro children last Saturday within ten blocks of Mayor La Guardia's home and the discovery of written complaint to City Hall has the body of a man in merit, such a letter means trouble for the policeman on the beat and sometimes results in departmental charges against him.

White storekeepers in Harlem allow Negro boys to get away with petty pilfering, fearing that another Harlem riot will start if they lay hands on the youngsters. White teachers in some Harlem schools have requested and obtained police escorts to accompany them from the school buildings at the end of each day.

The Mayor said the flareup of serious crimes had been receiving police attention for some time prior to the stabbing of James O'Connell, 15, at Fifth Avenue and Ninety-ninth Street last Saturday. After the O'Connell boy died of his stab wounds, three youngsters, two 16 and the third 12 years old, were arrested on suspicion of homicide and are being held without bail for a hearing on Nov. 19. The police reported that the youngsters had intended to rob the O'Connell boy but fled when his older brother James, 18, ran to help him.

Mayor Responds to Protests

When the Mayor was asked at City Hall yesterday for his reaction to the protests sent to him by downtown civic groups he said:

"The matter has received attention for some time. The fact that arrests were made indicates that the situation is indeed a bad one. What makes it all the more difficult is that the crimes are committed by young hoodlums in their teens, from 12 to 16 years. Many of the cases have been broken, and the majority were mere youngsters."

"I personally took charge of one case and eight or ten boys were arrested; two aided in getting the evidence, and one was as young as 8 years of age. Of the whole gang, only one or two were old enough to be taken to a criminal court. The rest went to Children's Court.

"I have ordered strong reinforcements of police in that locality and am sure the condition will soon be corrected."

Individual policemen assigned to Harlem have often complained to newspaper men in the district that they were hampered in doing their work by Mayor La Guardia's repeated invitations to the population to report any instances of police oppression directly to City Hall. Regardless of whether the body of a man in merit, such a letter means trouble for the policeman on the beat and sometimes results in departmental charges against him.

White storekeepers in Harlem allow Negro boys to get away with petty pilfering, fearing that another Harlem riot will start if they lay hands on the youngsters. White teachers in some Harlem schools have requested and obtained police escorts to accompany them from the school buildings at the end of each day.

Milk and insurance companies have curtailed their business in Harlem because of the repeated robberies of their collectors. The late Harry C. Perry, Tammany leader of Harlem, made it his invariable custom to escort visitors from his home on West 126th Street to the subway at night, fearing that they would be slugged and robbed if they went alone.

District Attorney Thomas E. Dewey, discussing the situation yesterday, said:

"These recent incidents prove two things: First, the necessity for better policing around the northern part of Central Park. Commissioner Valentine assures me to-

day that this was being done. Second, the urgent need for more public support of the Harlem Y. M. C. A. and similar institutions. All of these crimes have been committed by children between 8 and 16 and they underline the necessity for better conditions."

An extensive rearrangement of police coverage in Harlem appeared likely yesterday following a conference of Police Commissioner Valentine, Chief Inspector Louis F. Costuma and other police officials on the Harlem problem. Since Central Park has no detectives regularly assigned to it, the detective work has been picked up by detective squads in precincts near the park. The precinct detectives have been overloaded with complaints in recent months, making it likely that additional men will be transferred into precincts near the park.

Many Decoyed in Area!

Street solicitation is one of the pressing problems under police scrutiny, since such solicitation is practiced openly along 125th Street and other main thoroughfares. In many instances Negro women have decoyed white men, who are slugged, robbed and sometimes killed when they accompany prostitutes. Veteran policemen in Harlem warn white men against walking through the side streets even during the early evening hours. If the police arrest prostitutes the cases are often thrown out of court because white men will not complain against them.

Last Sunday night an 18-year-old Negro and a 17-year-old Puerto Rican errand boy were arrested charged with raping and robbing a 35-year-old white woman near the Central Park Reservoir on Oct. 23. The police reported that the two admitted the crime, and also said that on Oct. 27 they had attempted to rape and rob a second white woman who fought them off and fled.

Because of a series of similar occurrences, fifty detectives were assigned to the park at night and additional uniformed men were detailed to work with the police of the Central Park Precinct. In the past the police have taken it for granted that many crimes of this nature are not reported to them because of the reluctance of women complainants to identify themselves.

Two 16-year-old Negroes were arrested last Saturday night on charges that they had taken a gold watch and signet ring from Paul J. Spann, 17, of Lamington Road, Far Hills, N. J., at St. Nicholas Terrace and 135th Street in

NEW YORK

Harlem. St. Nicholas Park has been the scene of other robberies and assaults.

Laundry Worker Killed

Yesterday the police were investigating the murder of Joseph Keelan, a 32-year-old laundry worker, whose body was found at 7 o'clock yesterday morning on a footpath in Morningside Park, in the vicinity of West 123d Street. Detectives of the West 100th Street station classed the death as a homicide after an autopsy showed that Keelan had died of a fractured larynx. He was a laundry helper in Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center and lived with his wife, Agnes, and their 5-month-old daughter, Joan, at 528 West 128th Street, a short distance from the park.

From the circumstances of Keelan's death the police assumed that he had been "mugged," a favorite way of throttling a victim in Harlem. One member of a gang "mugs" the victim by stealing up behind him, throwing an arm around his neck and holding a knee in his back. As the helpless man is choked and bent backward, other members of the gang turn his pockets inside out and sometimes steal his clothing as well.

Keelan was found clad only in his shirt, underwear and socks, and his empty wallet lay near his body. Mary Harris and Catherine Bradley, guests of the Keelans on Wednesday night, told the police that Keelan had escorted them home after buying them several rounds of drinks. They said Keelan was not intoxicated when he left them at 4:45 Thursday morning.

Park Police Details Heavier

Commissioner Valentine told reporters at Police Headquarters yesterday that his department had increased its details in and around Central Park a long time ago.

"For a long time this department has had assigned to the north end of Central Park and to the area east and west of Central Park, particularly in the evenings and at night, additional uniformed patrolmen and detectives in an endeavor not only to prevent crimes of violence by boys and men but to apprehend those who are guilty of these crimes," he said.

"Only last week two men were arrested for raping and assaulting a white woman in Central Park, and, as you know, three Negro boys have been apprehended in the murder of the O'Connell boy.

"The Central Park area and

those to the east and west have been receiving special attention, and on Monday of this week additional foot patrolmen, radio cars and detectives were assigned to prevent assaults, attempted or actual robberies, pocketbook snatching, burglaries and other crimes."

Fourteen mothers from lower Harlem marched on the Mayor's home yesterday morning with placards demanding additional police protection for their neighborhood. Captain James McElroy of the West 135th Street station got there before the pickets and persuaded them to abandon their picketing in favor of making a formal complaint at the station house. Later the group conferred with Inspector John W. Sutter of the Sixth Division and Captain Joseph Reit of the East 104th Street station. The police officials told them additional police and detectives had been assigned to the district.

Park Commissioner Robert Moses has warned repeatedly that more police protection was required to check vandalism and other crimes in the parks. His most recent report on the last eight years of park administration reiterates the warning and asks for a force of men specifically assigned to parks.

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

ARRESTS MOUNT, CRIMES DECLINE IN HARLEM AREA

Drive Shows Effect as Extra
Details of Police Patrol the
Most Dangerous Sections

MORE BOYS IN ROUND-UP
NOV 9 1941

2 Held in Attack on Friend of
Slain Child—4 Adults Are
Seized in Robbery

Police records yesterday showed that the clean-up of crime conditions in Lower Harlem, the north end of Central Park and near-by

parks and streets, which was started with the assignment of 250 additional police to those districts Friday afternoon, resulted overnight in eight arrests and a sharp decrease in the number of petty thefts and holdups, purse-snatchings, "muggings" and attacks on women and children.

The affected areas were heavily patrolled again yesterday and last night with extra foot patrolmen, their posts shortened and covered in some cases with double and triple the normal strength, as well as motor cycle and mounted police and detectives and uniformed men in police radio cars and their own private automobiles.

At Mayor La Guardia's direction, Police Commissioner Valentine, attributing the trouble to a shortage of police, ordered the transfer of policemen from other parts of the city following public

outrage from Harlem and its vicinity over the disturbing increase of crime in recent weeks. These detections mostly committed by Negro special Central Park detail. The boys in their teens, according to detections decided the four were the police, reached a climax last acting suspiciously and took them week in two murders, in one of to the East 104th Street police station which a 15-year-old white boy was

stabbed to death by a 12-year-old. Although they denied any criminal history or intent, the police at Ninety-ninth Street and Fifth Avenue, not far from Mayor La Guardia's residence¹⁹⁴¹

Two Boys Are Arrested

Those arrested Friday night included two boys, respectively 14 and 15 years old.

About 10 P. M. a detective of the East 104th Street station saw two Negro youths following Michael Kutchna, 16, of 49 East 106th Street, at Madison Avenue and 106th Street. Stepping into a hallway to conceal himself, the detective watched, and reported he saw the Negroes jump on Kutchna and begin beating him. The detective ran up and arrested one of the Negroes, who identified himself as Digno Martinez, 15, of 57 East 111th Street, on a charge of juvenile delinquency.

Although the other escaped, he was identified by Martinez, according to the police, as Victor Dumas, 17, of 1,330 Fifth Avenue. Dumas was arrested at his home and charged with suspicion of attempted robbery.

The police said Dumas admitted attacking Kutchna and participat-

ing in several previous robberies or attempted robberies involving children, but said he had never been arrested before. He was held in \$7,500 bail in Felony Court for a hearing Monday.

Kutchna identified both prisoners, according to the police. Kutchna was a friend of James O'Connell, 15, of 1518 Madison Avenue, the boy stabbed to death a week ago last night.

A 14-year-old boy identified as George Fuller of 75 East 114th Street was arrested in Central Park near 103d Street and Fifth Avenue, and accused of juvenile delinquency in connection with a morals charge involving three girls, respectively 8, 10 and 12 years old. The boy and the girls were taken to the Children's Society Shelter at 2 East 105th Street.

Four Seized Outside Park

Four Negroes were arrested at 108th Street and Fifth Avenue, just outside Central Park, by two police officers temporarily assigned to crimes, mostly committed by Negro special Central Park detail. The boys in their teens, according to detections decided the four were the police, reached a climax last acting suspiciously and took them week in two murders, in one of to the East 104th Street police station which a 15-year-old white boy was

stabbed to death by a 12-year-old. Although they denied any criminal history or intent, the police at Ninety-ninth Street and Fifth Avenue, not far from Mayor La Guardia's residence¹⁹⁴¹

the park to see if they could identify the prisoners. Clayton Ryan of 83 North Seventeenth Street, East Orange, N. J., asserted, according to the police, that the four had held him up and robbed him last Saturday night in Harlem.

The prisoners identified themselves as Wilkin McCray, 18, a laborer of 351 Lenox Avenue; Vernon Bond, 20, a laborer, of 2,164 Seventh Avenue; Caesar Hutton, 22, a laborer, who gave no address, and James Smith, 33, who gave no occupation, of 2,052 Seventh Avenue.

In Felony Court, where the four prisoners were held in \$7,500 bail each for the grand jury on charges of robbery, five other residents of New Jersey joined Ryan in identifying the Negroes. The six complainants said they were sitting in an automobile in 119th Street between Fifth and Lenox Avenues when the four Negroes came up, each with a knife in his hand, and ordered them to hand over their money under threats of stabbing. A total of \$11.40 was stolen, they charged.

NOV 9 1941

Besides Ryan, the complainants were Charles Hallax of 168 Bergen

Street, George Ely of 400 Central Avenue and George Vaccarollo of 60 Lock Street, all of Newark; John Fleno of 262 Hurlbert Street, Orange, and Myron Beim of 44 Lake Street, Bloomfield.

Two detectives of the pickpocket squad, temporarily assigned to the park detail, heard a rustling in the bushes in Central Park near the East Drive and 103d Street about 10 P. M. Friday. While one went for help, the other stayed on watch. When other policemen arrived they surrounded the bushes and found Caesar Santoni, 34, of 1857 Madison Avenue, a Puerto Rican.

According to the police, Santoni had a knife with two sharp four-inch blades. He was held on the charge of suspicion of violating the Sullivan law and was questioned about park crimes in which Puerto Ricans have been accused. He denied participating in any of them or having any criminal intent at the time of his arrest, explaining that he was taking a short cut through the park.

The police said Santoni's fingerprints showed he was arrested in Jersey City on Sept. 1, 1931, charged with being a disorderly person. Santoni was held in \$2,500 bail for the Court of Special Sessions^{NOV 9 1941}

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

ILD to Defend Negro in 5-Year-Old Stabbing Case

Reginald Thomas, ILD Member, Was Out of Town
Day Cop Was Stabbed in Harlem Violence;
Defense Balks Picking of Biased Jury

Would a man who had stabbed a policeman be allowed to walk the streets free for five years, under the relatively light bail of \$500, especially if that man was a Negro? That is the question which the attorney for Reginald Thomas, first charged in July, 1936, with having stabbed a policeman about five feet¹⁹⁴¹ in Harlem, wants answered.

Thomas is coming up for trial in Reginald Thomas, five feet, 11 General Sessions, Part Three, on inches tall, husky, broad-shoulder-

Monday, July 7. Selection of a jury ed, 33 years old, at that time ac is expected to be completed by that time in the ILD in Harlem, who had been out of town on the date in question was arrested nine days later and taken to the hospital where patrolman Nolan lay between for John Williams in Brooklyn and life and death. Nolan surrounded by oxygen tanks, did not open his eyes, witnesses say, when he was asked whether Thomas was the man who had stabbed him. He nodded.

Thomas went on trial, after the five-year neglect of his case on the part of the District Attorney's office, before Judge John Freschi last Tuesday. Postponement to next Monday was forced by the difficulties of selecting an unprejudiced jury, most of those questioned, admitting bias against "Communists," after the prosecution had branded Thomas a "Communist."

The case started during the height of Italy's assault on Ethiopia, when feeling among the Negro people of Harlem was at fever pitch against the invaders. Racketeers, utilized the situation to extort money from Italian shopkeepers by attempting to incite violence against Italian store proprietors and then forcing them to buy protection.

On July 12, 1936, at a meeting in front of Bello's Restaurant, 127th St. and Lenox Ave., bricks were hurled through the windows. In the subsequent disturbance following arrival of the police, Patrolman Danny Nolan was dangerously stabbed. Eyewitnesses described the assailant as slight, about 17 or 18 years old and not more than

Booked on first degree assault but released on \$500 bail, the District Attorney's office postponed the case for more than a year because of Nolan's illness. For five years now the case has been postponed.

Last week the case was announced for trial.

15-1941

NEW YORK

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.
**Police Sought
Negro, White
Man Gives Up**
JAN 4 1941

The combing of lower Harlem tenement districts by detectives in search of Marijane Quinlan, 15 year old daughter of the chief of police of South Amboy, N. J., ceased last week when Alfred Giannone, 32, white, was arrested in connection with the case by Lt. O'Leary and Detective Nomoyle of the 104th St. Station.

Giannone was said to have testified that he met the girl on the East River Drive on Nov. 9th. He induced the girl to come to his apartment where she remained until Nov. 15th at which time she said that she was leaving to visit friends. He hasn't seen her since. Other information revealed that she was stopping at a downtown hotel but so far, no other clues have been forthcoming.

The lynch-inciting attack was promptly challenged by Paul J. Kern, president of the Civil Service Commission, who asserted Weston was more entitled to his city job than Al Smith, Jr., whom he said had been involved in a much more serious "indiscretion" in a midtown hotel.

Although Weston resigned his post effective March 15, Kern and a question by Ellis that he had not requested it. McAvoy supported his right to hold the city position.

Acts charged in the anonymous letters against Weston, which the Civil Service Commission President asserted were not proved, "did not disqualify him for his \$1,500 a year city position any more than the Pavelick incident disqualifies Al Smith, Jr., for his present \$5,000 city position as Councilman."

SPILLS SMITH STORY

Kern challenged his investigators, saying:

FEB 18 1941

"It will be recalled that in the Pavelick trial Smith, Jr., testified that both he and Miss Pavelick were 'pretty intoxicated,' admitted that he registered under an assumed name at a midtown hotel, and answered the question as to whether he had intimate relations with Miss Pavelick by saying 'I guess I did.'

Welfare Commissioner Hodson, it was learned, forced the resignation of Weston while he was under fire of reactionaries for alleged Com-

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Anti-Negro Attack Latest Move of Smith Committee

FEB 18 1941

**Kern Defer Is Negro, Counter Unproven
'Immoral' Charge by Citing Smith's
'Indiscretion' in a Hotel**

By Harry Raymond

The Al Smith Jr. Councilmanic committee yesterday launched into a chauvinistic assault against civil service, charging, on the basis of unsubstantiated anonymous letters, that Milton M. Weston, Negro home relief supervisor, was unfit for his job because of allegations of immorality.

Weston had submitted his resignation while under fire. McAvoy declared, but he added in response to a question by Ellis that he had not asked the Negro social worker to quit his post.

LYNCH INCITEMENT

Commissioner Kern charged the attack against the Negro was a "lynch incitement" and added:

"It is extremely distressing to us that the Ellis-Smith Committee should seek to take a job away from a young man who has earned it on merit and who has served with great satisfaction for more than five years."

Charges against Weston involved a divorce suit in the South and two anonymous letters charging he had illicit relations with two women of his acquaintance.

"These anonymous letters could not be substantiated," Kern said.

Lashing out against attempts to discriminate against the Negro welfare worker, Kern added:

"In this case it should be noted that Mr. Weston belongs to a race

which is the victim of the most unfortunate and widespread discrimination in private employment. If need be, therefore, this would certainly be a case where every possible sympathetic consideration should be given to a young man who, despite his membership in such oppressed group, has been able to obtain an excellent education, and who has passed difficult examinations on the basis of merit for a city job. We would not lightly disqualify such a man. We would certainly not disqualify him on the basis of anonymous letters."

New York Age
New York, N. Y.

Cops Offer Boy \$2 To Forget Beating They Gave Him

"One of them took me out in the hall and said they were sorry and to forget about the whole thing, and said 'Take this. Forget it,' and placed two dollars in my hand."

This statement is from the affidavit given to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People by Elwin Lark, 20, a machinist, who was kicked, chased and beaten by two New York City detectives Wednesday, May 14.

According to Lark, who works at night, he left the building where he works on the night of May 14 to get his supper, noticed a crowd at 45th street and went to investigate. The two detectives who were pushing the crowd, he turned to him, told him to "Beat it" and one of them, for no reason, kicked him in the groin. Lark ran back into the building he had just left, followed by the police who trapped him in an elevator and began kicking and beating him.

Lark's employer and a bystander reported the matter to the police. Lark came the next day to the NAACP office where he talked with members of the legal staff.

New York Age

New York, N. Y.

JUDICIAL PREJUDICE

MAR 22 1941

"IF THE WARDEN of the State's prison is unable to find anyone to turn on the switch, I'll gladly act as executioner."

The above words sound like a Georgia judge addressing a Negro accused of rape or talking back to a white man. On the contrary, they were actually spoken by a New York City magistrate two weeks ago to a white prisoner indicted for first degree murder. The speaker was Magistrate Michael Ford, and the prisoner was George Joseph Cvek, accused of the strangle slaying of Mrs. Elizabeth Jensen at her home, 507 East 179th street.

Cvek appeared before Magistrate Ford on Friday for arraignment and received the above tongue lashing. An arraignment does not constitute a trial and, therefore, Magistrate Ford's remarks seem to be utterly uncalled for. Under our law, every accused is presumed to be innocent until found guilty by a jury of his peers. Magistrate Ford has apparently found Cvek guilty of murder in the first degree and, moreover, already seated in the electric chair.

MAR 22 1941

Negroes, accused of crime, have received too much of this same kind of treatment at the hands of magistrates and police officials all over the country. Now whites are beginning to feel the effects. And to add an ironical touch to the proceedings, we just remembered that last week was celebrated as Bill of Rights Week.

That afternoon he was approached at work by the two detectives.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Youth Beaten by Cops Offered \$2 to "Forget It"

NEW YORK—"One of them took me out in the hall and said they were sorry and to forget about the whole thing, and said, 'Take this. Forget it,' and placed two dollars in my hand."

Thus reads a portion of a statement from an affidavit given the NAACP by Edwin Lark, machinist, who was kicked, chased and beaten by two New York City detectives on May 14.

Lark reported having stopped to investigate a crowd on a corner near where he works. One of two detectives who were pushing back the crowd, turned to him, told him to "Beat it!" kicked him in the groin and subsequently both chased him into the building where he works, trapped him in an elevator and kicked and beat him.

The next day, the officers allegedly made the peace offering after the incident had been reported by Lark's employer.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Reginald Thomas Released on Bail

ECT 9 1941
Defense Committee Pledges Renewed
Efforts for Reversal of Conviction

Reginald Thomas, sentenced to a term of from two to four years in Sing Sing two months ago for allegedly stabbing a policeman in a Harlem street fight in 1936, was back in New York yesterday morning among the friends who stuck by him throughout the past five years and who raised bail for his release.

Angelo Herndon, secretary of the Reginald Thomas Defense Committee, personally handed over the bail money at the state prison late Tuesday night. Thomas, formerly an organizer for the International Labor Defense in Harlem, returned home on the next train with Herndon.

"I realize that I am being made a victim and scapegoat not only because I am a Negro," Thomas said, "but also because a great part of my life has been devoted to the cause of promoting unity between Negro and white workers and for a more genuinely democratic America."

ECT 9 1941
CONFIRMS PEOPLE'S FAITH

Herndon, who was once sentenced to 20 years on a chain-gang for organizing Georgia whites and Negroes together in defense of their elementary rights, said that Thomas' release on bail "represents a confirmation of the people's faith in the work of the Defense Committee." He said the Committee was grateful "to the hundreds of people of New York and elsewhere" who

responded with money for bail.

"In order to insure the success of the appeal to the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of New York and the complete vindication of Mr. Thomas we must have more funds immediately," Herndon said. "There is a premium on justice in New York State. Reginald Thomas alone or any other worker, could never raise the tremendous funds required to carry on such an appeal for justice."

He called on "believers in equal justice" to send contributions to the Reginald Thomas Defense Committee at 1 W. 125th St.

HOPE FOR REVERSAL

Dr. Arnold Donawa, member of the Committee, and Samuel Neuburger, attorney retained by the ILD to defend Thomas, also made statements. Dr. Donawa said the Committee's efforts will now be directed toward carrying out an appeal to obtain complete vindication of the convicted man. Mr. Neuburger felt that the "four-week" trial with the 1000-page record" indicated "so little credible evidence" that he felt justified in believing that the Appellate Court would reverse the conviction.

Thomas was arrested ten days after a policeman had been stabbed during the aftermath of a stormy street corner meeting at Lenox Ave. and 127th St., five years ago. Description of the assailant sent out by police did not fit Thomas and at no time during the trial was any police eyewitness permitted to take the stand. The day after the "guilty" verdict was rendered, Eli Allison, member of the all-white jury, repudiated his vote in a letter to Judge John Freschi.

Despite vigorous defense efforts to have the verdict set aside as illegal, Thomas was sentenced to from two to four years and bail set at \$10,000 pending appeal.

Present Crime Wave Harlem Leaders Say

Harlem civic leaders said today that their crime problem has been serious for at least five years and declared recently reported robberies, stabbings, assaults and murders should not be attributed to a sudden crime wave.

"There is no more of a crime wave in Harlem now than there has been heretofore," said Julius Adams, managing editor of the Amsterdam News, a Negro weekly. "What has happened now is that

a Negro boy killed a white boy and that has put a different complexion on the problem."

Matthew J. Eder, executive secretary of the Uptown Chamber of Commerce, 871 W. 125th St., agreed with the editor.

"There is no crime wave in the sense that it is something new and sudden," Mr. Eder said. "We have felt for a long time that this section has not had proper police protection. We have been advocating since 1935 that more police be added to this section and have talked on several occasions in the past with Commissioner Valentine about the problem."

Rudolph J. Thomas, acting executive secretary of the Harlem Branch Y. M. C. A., also agreed.

"I would not say that there is any crime wave in Harlem," he said. "Times similar to those which occurred in the last week have been occurring right along." The Rev. Samuel Sweeney, Negro pastor of St. Marks M. E. Church, Edgecombe Ave. and 137th St., likewise shied away from the term "crime wave."

"It is an accentuation of what has been occurring," was the way he put it. "It has been growing rather rapidly during the last year."

Mr. Adams was asked in view of his claim that no crime wave existed, how he would describe crime conditions in Harlem.

"While I would not regard Harlem as a crime-ridden community," he replied, "I would say that there is far too much crime and I believe it could be cut down by proper police protection. What we want is what we've asked for repeatedly—a good policing job."

Dr. Sweeney, who has been pastor of St. Marks for 14 months and who is a member of the executive committee of the Greater New York Federation of Churches, said that he recently witnessed three robberies near his church. One occurred on the steps of the church, another on the steps of his home and still another, in which a trustee of the church was the victim, only a few feet from the church.

He said he believed additional policemen in the area would relieve the situation, but that a more lasting solution rests in providing more and better recreational facilities for Harlem's youth. He suggested that schools and churches that are unused at night be thrown open as meeting places for the youngsters who otherwise would "run wild" on the streets.

350 Extra Men Seek to Halt

Depredations

Officers Meet To Map Better Patrol System

Anthony F. Burke, ~~Magistrate~~ ^{An-} ~~Magistrate~~ ^{Shocked.}
In Felony Court Magistrate Anthony F. Burke, decl
~~that the ought~~

tremendous increase in the number of cases from the Harlem area was shocking. He added: "I am not quite sure it is entirely a police problem. To me it's more of a social and economic problem. It seems to me that the people should be educated. There ought to be more recreation centers."

The steadily increasing number of crimes, culminating in the fatal stabbing of a 15-year-old boy in Central Park Saturday and the strangling of a man in Morningside Park Wednesday night, had led to rumors that the parks might be closed at night. But Commissioner Valentine declared:

"There will be no curfew in the parks. They are public. It would be ridiculous to close them. They are going to be properly patrolled."

Hard to Patrol.

He said that parts of Central Park were hard to patrol because of the "uneven terrain" and because there are "thousands of places of concealment." He said the east side and west side of Central Park were "easy to cover," but that the north side of the park, from 86th St. to 110th St., was "bad."

It is known that the number of patrolmen and detectives assigned to the park has been steadily increased, with some of the detectives strolling through the park at night disguised in women's clothes, but Commissioner Valentine declined to reveal the number of men now on duty in the "crime belt."

Referring to the widespread robberies of collectors for insurance companies and other firms in Harlem hallways, Mr. Valentine said:

"Up there in those incubators, our own men are not safe. And we can't patrol hallways. But we certainly can patrol parks and highways."

15-1941

NEW YORK

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

Blitzkrieg on Harlem

Two weeks ago a young white boy was stabbed to death in Central Park. Last Wednesday afternoon a young colored boy was arrested and charged with the crime. His alleged confession was the kick-off for an all-out attack on Harlem by several daily newspapers whose editors invented a "Crime Wave in Harlem," which in fact, does not exist.

Ever since last Thursday a major part of the metropolitan press of the city — with the August New York Times spreading it on thickest — has been conducting one of the most vicious smear campaigns ever leveled against a community—and without any justification whatsoever.

This isn't the first time the daily press has let loose its big guns, firing adverse publicity at Harlem and its people. But this time some of them, the Times particularly, have opened up both barrels, which has set many alert persons in this community to thinking about the motive behind their action.

NOV 15 1941

Certainly, the New York Times, with its vast network of communication, is aware that the fatal stabbing of James O'Connell was not the first act of violence to occur in the Harlem area, and that his death cannot be truthfully described as a crime wave. Yet nothing has been said and nothing has been done by that newspaper about other disturbances in which Negroes were victims.

Harlemites are resentful and rightly so of the attack by the Times, the Daily News, the World-Telegram and other newspapers, whose columns are closed to their worthwhile activities, but who seize every opportunity to brand the com-

munity as crime-ridden and the people as savages and criminals, and Harlemites will fight back!

We know there is crime in Harlem! Perhaps there is more crime here than there should be, but that situation existed long before young O'Connell was killed. The police department, however, has been fully cognizance of the extent of crime in Harlem. What is more the Amsterdam Star-News has been active in exposing the condition even to the point of being criticized for emphasizing anti-social happenings.

But just as it took a Hitler to dramatize the viciousness of bigotry, racial intolerance and discrimination, it took the tragic death of a white youth to focus attention of the press on conditions in Harlem and force the indifferent police into action. Even now, from reports in the daily press, the cops are concerned only with the area from 86th to 110th Street.

For months we have conducted an uninterrupted campaign for more police protection in certain sections of Harlem. We have advocated more Negro police in certain dis-

tricts because we felt officers who understood the community, its people, their habits and customs, would be much more effective than many of the patrolmen and plainclothes-men at present assigned to Harlem.

We argued that discrimination against Negroes in obs, failure to provide adequate recreational facilities, schools and houses would breed crime and serve generally to cause a weakening of the morale of the community. We have seen this come to past.

Cossack tactics of the police will not solve the present problem. It is not a crime situation in the sense that a band of brigands are loose on a rampage and that the rounding up of the gang will end the difficulties. This matter is far more deep-rooted. It is basic, grounded in the social and economic evils that Negroes suffer because of prejudice and intolerance. It will be corrected or improved only in proportion as these injustices disappear.

If the daily newspapers are genuinely alarmed and want to perform a real service for the community, they can do so

by following up their campaign of hate with an honest-to-goodness campaign to secure for Harlem better housing, health and school facilities, and help break down the economic barriers which keep Harlemites from jobs that would

raise the normal standard of living.

On the other hand, if they are unconcerned about the underlying conditions that give rise to occasional outbreaks in Harlem, and are simply bent upon trying to degrade the community and its residents, the newspapers themselves and

More than once we have had enraged committees storm our offices to demand an explanation or a retraction for some minor error or misstatement under threat of boycott. We don't see why even the powerful New York Times or the Daily News should be permitted to escape censure for such willful distortion of the truth whether they were uninformed or deliberate. For until those newspapers make some kind of explanation, Harlem is going to have a mighty black eye.

The viciousness of the attacks was just that bad.

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

Brewer Gets Prison Term

OCT 6 - 1941
Composer of "Stampede
In G Minor" Escapes
Electric Chair

New York Age

New York, N. Y.

HARLEM'S LATEST CRIME

WAVE NOV 15 1941

A FIFTEEN-YEAR OLD white boy was attacked and fatally stabbed by a group of three Negro youths in Central Park last week, and several other crimes have been reported in other parks in the Harlem area during the past few weeks. As a result the daily papers are making much of the fact that crime is rampant in Harlem.

While we make no effort to excuse this lawlessness, we think that much of it could be prevented if the parks in the up-town area were properly policed. There is a shortage of policemen and this shortage is felt most in Negro sections of the city. The personnel of the Police Department has stood at 18,000 men for the past decade, and recently this figure has been cut down by the drafting of young unmarried policemen for military service, and the retirement of a large number of those eligible.

The economic condition of the masses of the Harlem population, causing both the parents to go out to work, leaves little opportunity for home training for the youth of this area and this lack of home training is causing many of them to grow up like "Topsy" and roam the streets and parks when they should be at home.

NOV 15 1941

Since this condition is well known to the Police Department, we think that extra police should be kept in these areas where large groups of unemployed and minors are known to live and form danger spots.

Much of the crime now prevalent in Harlem could be prevented if more police were assigned to this area.

New York. This week, he pleaded guilty to second degree murder during a hearing before General Sessions Judge Jonah Goldstein who set December 12 as the date for sentence.

Policeman Shoots Fleeing Negro

Fred Neal, 31, a Negro, is in Harlem Hospital in a serious condition from bullet wounds in the right side and stomach, suffered two weeks later and returned when he attempted to break away.

from a policeman who arrested him yesterday on a charge of burglary.
Hugh Kelly, 31, a Negro, was shot by a policeman in the apartment of Mrs. Augustine Palceus, a Negro, at 2636 Eighth Ave., to which the policeman had taken him for identification.

THIEF LOOTSHOME NEXT TO MAYOR'S IN 'CRIME REGION'

Apartment Across the Hall Is
Ransacked in Spite of Heavy
Police Guard in Park Area

SUSPECT IS QUESTIONED

Regular Amount of Week-End
Vice Confronts Department
and Arrests Are Numerous

Despite the intensive police drive against crime in Harlem, the northern section of Central Park, and its adjacent areas, a burglar succeeded in breaking into an apartment directly across the hall from that of Mayor La Guardia on the sixth floor of 1274 Fifth Avenue, between 108th and 109th Streets, about 10 o'clock yesterday morning. NOV 10 1941

Deputy Chief Inspector John J. De Martino, in command of Manhattan East, said that 140 patrolmen had been assigned to duty on the 4 P. M.-to-midnight tour out of the East 104th Street station house and thirty men to the two other tours. Three extra radio cars and forty additional detectives have also been sent there, he revealed. NOV 10 1941

Interrupted as he was ransacking a bureau drawer by the frightened outcry of a woman living in the apartment, the prowler fled with a \$300 diamond ring and an undetermined amount of cash. He ran down six flights of stairs and made his escape, passing a patrolman on duty on fixed post outside the street door of the apartment building. NOV 10 1941

Last night, however, detectives picked up a 23-year-old Negro, Charles Reaves, of 55 West 100th Street and he was booked shortly before 10 o'clock in the East 104th Street police station on a charge of burglary. He was accused specifically of entering the apartment and taking \$10 from a purse. Police said that Reaves had been convicted of burglary in Bronx County Court on Dec. 5, 1940, and had been placed on parole for three years by County Judge James M. Barrett. NOV 10 1941

Usual Amount of Crime

This daring crime was the highlight of the week-end in the area,

although the usual Saturday night and early Sunday morning total of petty and sordid crime was also reported. One man was shot in the leg and captured in an alleged attempt to hold up a bar and grill; victims of four stabbing affrays were admitted to hospitals, and a stolen automobile was recaptured by detectives after a chase.

Ten arrests were made in the section as heavily augmented details of uniformed police and detectives kept the streets and parks more heavily patrolled than had been the case in years. Among those taken into custody were three notorious pickpockets, all with long police records; several youths found loitering in parks in the neighborhood, and two men armed with knives.

In addition to the normal details of uniformed men and detectives in the area, reinforcements totaling 324 men had been placed on duty as a result of the police determination to clean up conditions that Mayor La Guardia himself characterized as bad last week. Extra radio cars cruised through the streets, while mounted and motorcycle men were also assigned to assist the foot patrolmen and detectives. NOV 10 1941

Patrolman Henry Menzel of the East 104th Street station, on duty outside the street door, also recalled having seen a Negro enter and leave, but he, too, had recognized him as an employee of the Moskowitz bakery. The information supplied by Thomas and Patrolman Menzel led to the arrest of Reeves, who had worked as a helper on one of the bakery delivery wagons. NOV 10 1941

When the crime was reported, Captain James Pritchard, in charge of the Sixth Detective Division, took charge of the investigation. The police made every effort to keep the affair a secret. When Deputy Chief Inspector De Martino was asked about the incident at 3:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon, he replied sharply:

"I haven't heard anything about it and I don't believe it happened."

Mrs. Moskowitz appeared surprised when reporters communicated with her during the afternoon. She explained that "Captain Pritchard told me there would be no publicity about this." She told of the events of the night, however, and said that the diamond ring and cash had been taken. The police, even after admitting that Reeves was being questioned, maintained that nothing had been stolen from the apartment.

The burglary in the building in which the Mayor makes his home occurred in Apartment 6F, occupied by Rubin Moskowitz. Mayor La Guardia lives in 6C, on the same floor. In the apartment of Mr. Moskowitz at the time were his sister-in-law, Mrs. Celia Moskowitz, her 11-year-old daughter, Joan, and her 4-month-old niece, Sylvia Rosen.

Mrs. Moskowitz's husband, Benjamin, and Rubin Moskowitz were at work at the time in a bakery they jointly operate at 102 East 103d Street. Mrs. Rubin Moskowitz had gone to Baltimore to visit a sick relative, and Mrs. Celia Moskowitz, whose home is on the third floor, was temporarily occupying her brother-in-law's apartment.

She was awakened by the sound of a creaking door. At first she thought it might be her daughter, but she looked up and saw a man going through the dresser drawers. She screamed, and the man ran out the door. Mrs. Moskowitz ran to a window opening on an airshaft and called for help. Then she found slippers and a bathrobe and ran after the intruder.

Elevator Operator Saw Man

By the time she reached the street level the burglar had disappeared, but John Thomas, elevator operator in the building, told her he had seen a man going down the stairs. Thomas said he had recognized the man as an employee of the Moskowitz bakery and had supposed he was doing an errand for one of his employers.

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Shot by Patrolman

Carl Wilson, a Negro, 25 years old, was shot in the left leg by Patrolman Robert Murray about 7 o'clock yesterday morning as he was running from a bar and grill at 594 Lenox Avenue where, ac-

cording to the police, he had slugged a porter over the head with a revolver butt in an unsuccessful effort to hold up the place. Wilson was taken to the prison ward of Harlem Hospital, charged with felonious assault. The porter, Hurley Burgus, was not seriously injured.

Leslie Taitt, 16, a Negro, of 57 East 122d Street, was taken to Harlem Hospital with stab wounds in the chest that the police said had been inflicted by Taitt's common-law wife, who was locked up on a charge of felonious assault.

Clarence Bowden, 24, and Frank Richardson, 29, Negroes, living at 36 West 116th Street, were also taken to the prison ward of Harlem Hospital charged with felonious assault on each other. The police said they had stabbed one another in a fight over a woman. Their injuries were not serious.

Edward Bailey, 25, a Negro, of 9 West 112th Street, was locked up on a charge of felonious assault on William Days of the same address, who was stabbed on the trunk and neck. Days was taken to Harlem Hospital.

Sam Burgess, 24, a Negro, of 280 Manhattan Avenue, was taken into custody by the police, who said he had stabbed Ellsworth Branch of 263 West 123d Street in an altercation at 138th Street and Lenox Avenue.

Phillip Hernandez, 31, a Puerto Rican, of 23 East 114th Street, was captured by detectives after a short chase from 61 East 115th Street. The police said that Hernandez had "mugged" Elentha Cortijo as he entered his home at that address—that is, had grabbed Cortijo from behind with an arm about his neck while with the other hand he went through his victim's pockets and took \$25 and a watch. Hernandez was charged with felonious assault and robbery.

Noticing a Negro youth hiding in some bushes in St. Nicholas Park, Patrolman Eugene Cartier,

one of the men specially detailed there, arrested William J. Morgan, 17, of 602 St. Nicholas Avenue, on a charge of vagrancy. Morgan said he was a student at George Washington High School.

When Edward Thompson of 550 West Twenty-second Street came out of a night club at 145th Street and Lenox Avenue early yesterday he found that his new Packard coupe had been stolen. He telephoned an alarm to the police. Not long afterward detectives cruising along Lenox Avenue saw the car and after a short chase arrested its occupants, James Lefimania, 24, a Negro, of 128 West 116th Street, and Lillian Pierce, 20, a Negro, of 34 West 133d Street.

Raymond Diaz, a Negro orphan who said he lived in a room at 122 East 109th Street when he could afford it, was arrested on a charge

or violation of the Sullivan law by detectives who said he had a six-inch knife in his belt when they saw him at 113th Street and Madison Avenue.

Policemen locked up two other Negroes, Greene Rivera, 33, of 34 West 112th Street, and Ralph Rodriguez, 28, of 1677 Madison Avenue, on charges of violating the Sullivan law. They said the two men, each armed with a pocket knife, had been chasing two white men along Madison Avenue near 114th Street when they were captured.

Detectives of the Pickpocket Squad arrested three Negro pickpockets in a crowded Eighth Avenue bus near 130th Street. The men taken into custody, charged with jostling, were Charles Johnson, 45, of 115 West 121st Street, with a record of thirty-two arrests and sixteen convictions since 1917; Arthur Powell, 51, of 2197 Eighth Avenue, who has been locked up twenty-one times and convicted five times since 1915; and "Weeping Willie" Jefferson, 42, of 142 West 117th Street, who since 1924 had had eighteen arrests and fourteen convictions.

Salvatore Ithia, 17, of 59 West 109th Street, was arrested by detectives in Central Park near 108th Street and the West Drive. They said he was headed for a man seated on a bench, and that he had in his possession a fishing knife with a three and one-half-inch, saw-toothed blade. Ithia told them that he went to school occasionally, when he had money.

The "so-called Harlem crime wave" will not be stopped by the police, but by calls for the united efforts of all the people of the city to improve the miserable living conditions in Harlem, the Rev. Dr. A. Clayton Powell Jr. said yesterday in a special sermon commemorating the 133d anniversary of the founding of the Abyssinian Baptist Church in Harlem.

"The so-called recent crime wave," Dr. Powell declared, "is neither a crime wave nor is it recent. It is not a crime wave in the accepted sense of the term because it is not being conducted by criminals. It is not recent because it dates to the beginning of the depression.

"In the past twenty-five years the population of Harlem has increased five-fold, yet facilities for recreation, education and health haven't even been doubled. Into this ghetto have been crowded people living in century-old tenements, making less money but paying higher rents and higher prices for foodstuffs than any other group in the city.

"This crime wave cannot be solved by the police, though more Negro policemen are needed on the edge of Harlem. The crime wave will be solved when leaders of in-

stitutions, settlement houses and by Paul Blanshard, executive director of the society, was released money on jails and policemen," the would need to spend less

of the city adopt a protective program whereby peoples of all communities can play and work together. The inadequacy of probation handle. NOV 10 1941

15-1941

Durham N.C. Morning Herald
February 9, 1941

Bojangles Helps Fugitive



Escaping to New York from a Georgia chain gang in which he was serving 10 to 20 years for robbery, Jay Gould Cotton (right), 15, was discovered through a letter he wrote to his mother. Bill "Bojangles" Robinson (center), famous dancer, and other members of the Association for the Advancement of Colored People have come to Cotton's aid. He is shown as he was questioned by Magistrate Charles Solomon in New York.

Atlanta, Ga. Journal
February 5, 1941

Bill Robinson Makes Bond for Chatham Fugitive

Negro Boy Released By New York Court In Lawyer's Custody

Jay Gould Cotton, youthful Negro fugitive from Chatham County, was free in New York Wednesday because a Brooklyn magistrate had heard and apparently signed in Atlanta Tuesday by Governor Herbert Lehman. A fugitive warrant for the return of Cotton was issued by the Georgia chain Governor Talmadge. A hearing on the Negro's extradition to Georgia will be held February 19 by Governor Herbert Lehman. A fugitive warrant was issued by the Georgia chain Governor Talmadge.

Bill Robinson, who had read about the Georgia Negro's case in

NEW YORK

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Youth Bojangles Helped Gets In Trouble Again

BROOKLYN—(AP)—Last October Magistrate Charles Solomon interceded with Gov. Lehman to stay extradition of Jay Gould Cotton, 16, who escaped from a chain gang in Savannah, Ga., while serving a 10 to 20 year sentence for assault and robbery. Bill Robinson, stage star, put up \$1500, the bail required.

Thursday Cotton was taken to Pennsylvania Court before Magistrate Folwell on a charge of criminal assault committed in Harlem. His bail was revoked and the magistrate adjourned both the criminal assault charge and the hearing on the fugitive-from-justice charge for June 11 and 18, respectively. Pittsburgh Courier Pittsburgh, Pa.

FIGHTS OUSTER ON MORAL CHARGES

NEW YORK, N.Y., Feb. 24—Ewart Guinier, junior attorney in the Municipal Civil Service Commission, was fired from his position last week at the specific request of Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia. Guinier charges a "frameup" and that "it's just a pretext to get rid of me because of union activities."

However, it was pointed out that Guinier was discharged because he has been rooming since last October in an apartment rented by a white woman, Mrs. Florence Rosenberg, social investigator with the Department of Welfare. In asking for Guinier's dismissal, Mayor LaGuardia issued a strong statement, saying, "city employees are expected to be persons of good moral character; living in accordance with law."

He will be given a departmental trial on Thursday with Paul J. Kern, president of the Civil Service Commission, sitting in judgment. Guinier is one of Kern's proteges and in a number of speeches he has pointed to the race man to prove that the Com-

mission does not practice discrimination.

Guinier has a brilliant scholastic record and has won an enviable reputation for his work in the Commission employ.

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Military Police Shoot Selectees

Soldier Objects To Use of 'N'

TAMPA, Fla. (AP)—Because a soldier objected to being called "nigger" by a white military policeman, two Negro selectees were shot and placed under arrest in a melee at the corner of Scott and Central streets last Tuesday night as a crowd looked on.

When an English subject, here on a boat called "don't fight among yourselves, fight the Germans and Italians" he was arrested but later released.

The soldier was sitting at a bar when the M.P. entered and ordered:

"Nigger, get up from there." When he objected to the epithet, he was placed under arrest. Another soldier asked the M.P. not to strike the first soldier and he was likewise arrested.

The Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.

A Trial Aimed Against The Harlem Community

The unjust prosecution of Reginald Thomas, militant Harlem Negro worker, by District Attorney Dewey's office, will be vigorously condemned by supporters of Negro rights and civil liberties.

Mr. Thomas, former Secretary of the Harlem Labor Defense, is a staunch foe of discrimination, a fighter for Negro and white unity, and for the pressing needs of the Harlem community. Now he is being tried on a slanderous and fantastic charge of stabbing a policeman five years ago. The very fact that the case has gathered dust in the District Attorney's office for so long a time is a commentary on its worth. Its resurrection now gives the appearance of trying to cover certain revivals of police brutality against Negroes, which the ILD and other organizations of the people helped to curb in the past.

Such revenge prosecutions have no place in New York; certainly not at a time like this when the full rights of the Negro people are essential to the fight against Hitlerism. Labor and other democratic citizens can urge the dropping of the Thomas prosecution and can give financial and other assistance to the Thomas Defense Committee at 1 W. 125th St., or to the International Labor Defense, 112 E. 19th St., New York City.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

A Verdict of Injustice

• Repudiation of the unjust verdict of guilty against Reginald Thomas by one of the jurors—a respected citizen of the community—bears many fruitful lessons.

Mr. Eli Allison, a teacher of mathematics and science in the school system and juror No. 9, told the court that he considered Thomas innocent and, in effect, was high-pressed into supporting the guilty verdict. This is a striking commentary on the bulldozing tactics used by District Attorney Dewey's office in crucial cases where the rights of labor and the Negro people are concerned.

In this instance, evidence that Thomas, militant Negro worker of Harlem, was guilty of assaulting a policeman five years ago was singularly lacking. The prosecutor confessed the bankruptcy of the case by letting it sleep for five years. He tried to bolster the case in court by red-baiting and intimidating tactics. In such an atmosphere a jury cannot function calmly, impartially or judiciously. Justice for a white worker would be difficult enough—it is a thousand times more difficult for a Negro.

It is not very often that a juror under such conditions stands up for democratic ideals and justice with the reactionary weight of the official prosecutor against him. But the fact that one does so at all is proof that the familiar pattern of injustice against the Negro at labor is being widely understood. Further evidence of this injustice is that Thomas was tried by an all-white jury, and it is still a rarity for Negro citizens to sit on juries in New York.

Friends of civil liberties and of Negro rights can be encouraged to support Thomas' fight for freedom and to give financial aid to the International Labor Defense which is conducting the appeal.

New York Times New York, N. Y. JUROR RETRACTS VOTE OF 'GUILTY'

Says He Held Out 8 Hours but
Agreed to Assent Verdict
to Save State Expense

Reginald Thomas, 41 years old, a Negro, was to be sentenced yesterday in General Sessions for the stabbing of Patrolman five years ago in a Communist demonstration in Harlem, but Judge John J. Freschi had to defer action until today.

He explained from the bench that one of the twelve jurors who had voted Thomas guilty in the stabbing of Patrolman Daniel J. Dolan, who has since retired from the force because of his wounds, had sent him a letter declaring that he had voted "guilty" though he felt the Negro should have been acquitted.

The juror, Eli Allison of 894 Riverside Drive, who described himself as a teacher of mathematics and science in the Franklin School, a private institution at 18 West Eighty-ninth Street, was in court with nine fellow-jurors when the judge made the announcement and was called to the witness chair.

He admitted he had voted "guilty" of second-degree felonious assault against Thomas in the jury room and when the verdict was rendered July 22, but said he had held out for nearly eight hours for acquittal.

He switched to "guilty," he asserted, only after the foreman on the last ballot had told him a disagreement of eleven to one on the verdict would mean a new trial would have to be ordered, and he did not want the expense of a new trial borne by the State.

He said he repeatedly had told his fellow-jurors before the verdict that he felt the defendant was innocent.

"You lost sight of your oath as a juror when you voted 'guilty?'" asked Judge Freschi.

The juror replied: "Not entirely."

Judge Freschi is expected to make known today his decision on the motion of the three defense lawyers that the conviction of Thomas be set aside.

The Daily Worker New York, N. Y. Cops Terrorize Negroes Hunting Soldier's Slayer

Police and detectives from the 7th Precinct station, Clinton and Delancy Sts., continued to a late hour last night dashing through the crowded streets of the Lower East Side, shrilling their sirens and picking up "suspects" in the killing early Sunday morning of a soldier on leave from Fort Wadsworth, Staten Island.

All the "suspects" herded into the station house were Negroes.

The dead soldier was Thomas J. Joyce, 22, a private in an anti-aircraft unit.

From the time of the first arrests early Sunday morning until late last night carloads of police and detectives roamed the slum Negro sections, indiscriminately picking up anybody they felt was a "suspect" and hauling him off to the station house.

Nearly Hit by Car, Shot as He Protests

William Worff, 23, a Negro, of Seventh Ave., Hutton and Smith 1614 Atlantic Ave., Brooklyn, was have been arrested previously for walking in Lenox Ave. at 114th St. disorderly conduct, police said.

shortly before midnight last night All were held in \$7500 bail each

when a car narrowly missed hit-for the Grand Jury by Magistrate

today.

"What the hell's the idea?" he said, reaching to open the door and pull the driver out. His answer was a shot in the back.

At Harlem Hospital, where Worff was taken in serious condition, he said a man in the rear of the car had run at him. A grocery proprietor near by called police. The car and its occupants escaped.

Meanwhile William Sperle, 42, of 12 Thompson St., an electrician employed by the Robins Drydock & Repair Co., suffered a fracture of the right leg when two Negroes beat and robbed him in front of 129 W. 118th St. at 6:30 a. m. today.

Mr. Sperle fought back and was tripped in the melee. The robbers took an undetermined amount of money, leaving him with five cents.

8 Seized as Police Start Harlem Drive

250 Men Added to Patrols In Central Park Section

Police patrols—augmented by 250 extra men—roaming the Harlem-Central Park section to combat crime today had netted eight more prisoners. In the roundup were four Negroes, as robbers, others as other suspects, a Puerto Rican for carrying a knife and a 14-year-old boy on moral charges.

Four were taken into custody just outside youth, since Detective Martin in Central Park at 107th St. and interrupted the attack.

Dumas, detectives said, admitted six other assaults.

The 14-year-old boy was arrested in Central Park on morals complaints involving three girls, from 8 to 12.

Brooklyn Crime Wave.

Meanwhile reports of similar crime-wave conditions existing in Brooklyn's Bedford-Stuyvesant area—the "Harlem" of that borough—began to filter into authorities. As in Harlem, the charges were made against the rowdier Negro element.

Mayor La Guardia studied a report by Mgr. John L. Bedford, rector of the Roman Catholic Church of the Nativity at Classon Ave. and Madison St., Brooklyn, to the effect that four churches in that vicinity had abandoned evening services because it was felt parishioners could not walk through the streets safely at night.

Library Complains.

A similar complaint was registered by Dr. Milton J. Ferguson, chief librarian of the Brooklyn Public Library, who said that branches of the library are "practically deserted" at night in the Fort Greene, South Brownsville and Bedford-Stuyvesant sections, populated largely by Negroes.

He was taken to the E. 40th St. station and booked on a charge of violating the Sullivan law.

Santoni told detectives he always carried the knife and was taking a short cut through the park at the time. Police said he admitted having been locked up on suspicion in New Jersey and Florida.

A short while later, Detective Raymond Martin arrested two Negro youths who he had witnessed assaulting Michael Kutchna, 16, of 49 E. 106th St., at 106th St. and Madison Ave. The older Negro, who said he was Victor Dumas, 17, of 1330 Fifth Ave., was booked on a charge of assault. The other one, 15, was held on a juvenile delinquency. No valu-

15-1941

New York ~~age~~

New York, N. Y.

Peculiar Assault Case Concluded

FEB 15 1941

MT. VERNON, N. Y.—The case of Nicholas DeBellis, of the Bronx, Eugene Savage, Herman Schmidt, and Wiley Hemmingway, white, of Mt. Vernon, versus Leroy Davis, Negro of Mount Vernon came to a most peculiar and bewildering climax Saturday evening, in the City Court before Acting City Judge, Thomas A. McKennell.

The men were arrested on Saturday evening, January 18, and charged with disorderly conduct. The evidence showed that Davis had been rendered unconscious, through a severe physical beating at the hands of the white men. Through counsel, Lucius L. Delany, Negro, of the firm, Delany and Lewis, of New York City, Davis preferred charges of assault, second degree against his alleged attackers. A similar charge was lodged against Davis.

In court Saturday, Judge McKennell made it known that in his estimation the evidence presented by Davis, the complaining witness, through his counsel, was not sufficient to warrant his upholding of a second degree assault charge, which is a felony. He suggested that the attorneys compromise and reduce the charges to assault. He maintained that according to the statutes a second degree assault had been done his client. However, Judge McKennell instructed his complaint clerk to draw up charges of assault, third degree, replacing the original charges.

Under the newly substituted charges, Judge McKennell, dismissed Eugene Savage, and Wiley Hemmingway, and found them not guilty of disorderly conduct or third degree assault. He found BeBellis and Schmidt guilty of both charges, suspending the disorderly conduct sentence, and fining them \$25 and \$15, respectively. Leroy Davis, still wearing a bandage over his left eye, a reminder of his beating, was dismissed on the disorderly conduct charge, found guilty of third degree assault, and given a suspended sentence.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Urge Drive For Thomas Defense Fund

NEW YORK—Endorsing the program of the Reginald Thomas Defense committee as outlined in an open letter from its secretary, Angelo Herndon, the International Labor Defense last week urged utmost cooperation and support of the group's efforts to secure Thomas' release on bail pending appeal.

Herndon's letter briefly outlines the facts of the Thomas case proving conclusively that the youth is the innocent victim of one of the most outrageous frame-ups perpetrated in New York. Thomas is serving a 2 to 4-year sentence in Sing Sing prison on charges of stabbing a white policeman in Harlem on the night of July 12, 1936.

Defense lawyers secured the setting of bail when Thomas was sentenced on August 1. The sum required is \$10,000.

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

HARLEM INTERNES USED TO STABBINGS

City Hospital Had 42 Knifing Cases Last Month and 40 During September

SOME BULLET WOUNDS TOO
16 Women Among Those Who
Were Treated in October
for Violent Injuries

NOV 8 1941
Most of the persons shot, stabbed or otherwise injured in hold-ups in

the Harlem area are treated at the Harlem Hospital, a city institution, at 136th Street and Lenox Avenue, a survey of the records of five hospitals revealed yesterday. Four of the hospitals are private or voluntary institutions.

Although it was virtually impossible to get a complete account of the various types of cases involving violent injuries at Harlem Hospital, hospital records showed an unusual number of persons treated for stab wounds.

The records for October showed that sixteen men, most of them Negroes, had been taken to the hospital in Harlem Hospital ambulances for treatment of stab wounds and one with a gunshot wound. Ambulances from other hospitals, Knickerbocker, Sydenham, Columbus and Beth David, brought in other cases to Harlem Hospital, raising the total for October to forty-two persons, sixteen of them women, who were treated for stab wounds.

In September fifty-one persons, two with gunshot wounds and the rest with stab wounds, were discharged after hospitalization.

Another hospital in mid-Harlem said that in the month of October it had treated fifteen persons for stab wounds and thirty-five others were treated for cuts and bruises received in a "violent situation."

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

250 More Police in Harlem To Stamp Out Crime Wave

Patrols in Park Doubled by Valentine After
2-Hour Conference With Staff—Priest
Says Brooklyn Negro District Is Unsafe

Nov 8 1941
a bad one but promised that it would be corrected promptly.

The Mayor's statement was induced by the murders of James O'Connell, 15 years old, of 1518 Madison Avenue, in an attempted robbery at Fifth Avenue and Ninety-ninth Street, outside Central Park, last Saturday night, and of James Keelan, 32, of 529 West 123d Street, who was attacked, robbed and stripped of his outer clothing in Morningside Park Wednesday night.

Commissioner Valentine ordered the extra police transferred from other precincts to Central Park and the territory north, east and west after a two-hour conference with other high police officials at headquarters.

Those present included the commanders of uniformed and detective forces in all the precincts and divisions affected, all of whom were directed to apply for as many men as they believed necessary to solve the problem.

It was decided to cut down the size of posts that individual policemen have to patrol in the park and in all affected neighborhoods, as well as to increase the number of men on duty there. There will be more fixed posts and in some cases they will be patrolled with double or triple the normal strength.

The extra details will include a large number of detectives, which may be increased, who will patrol in police radio cars and also in their own automobiles. There will be a larger number of detectives assigned to the park in women's clothes.

NOV 8 1941

Commissioner Valentine's orders were issued at the direction of Mayor La Guardia, who admitted on Thursday that the situation was

uneven terrain" in Central Park from 86th Street to 110th Street, containing "thousands of places of concealment," he said, has been one of the greatest problems confronting the police in their

NOV 8 1941

efforts to cope with crimes in the park.

"Up in Harlem," Mr. Valentine continued, "even my own men are not safe. You remember some time ago two policemen were attacked by two hold-up men in Harlem and one of the policemen had his clothing slashed, although they finally shot and killed the men who attacked them. Collectors for milk and insurance companies risk their lives if they go into certain districts without police protection."

"Most of the crimes are committed by boys from 12 to 16 years of age. The murder of the O'Connell boy last Saturday night was a deliberate, wanton crime by a 12-year-old Negro with a 12-inch knife."

Bands of hoodlums, mostly boys, he continued, have made a practice of setting upon children playing in the park and stealing their bicycles, skates, wrist watches and even clothing.

"Then," he said, "the bicycles and skates are sometimes used to come up close to a lady, snatch her purse and escape."

The Commissioner said most of the Negro boys arrested in connection with park crimes carry "switch-blade" knives "and don't hesitate to use them."

"Some of the knives," he added, "have two blades, and when you press a button a blade flies out at each end."

"No Curfew" in the Park

Asked about reports that Central Park and some other parks might be closed, the Commissioner replied:

"There will be no curfew in any park in the city. They will be kept open and properly policed."

He said the posts of patrolmen near the north end of Central Park, which now cover six or seven blocks, would be reduced to four or five blocks. He also disclosed that he had issued orders that all posts were to be kept covered without any "doubling up" or assigning one patrolman to cover two posts in case of a patrolman's absence.

Pointing out that the Police Department is short 762 men of the quota set up by the 1941 budget, the Commissioner said additional manpower was badly needed and that he would ask after the first of the year for more men to be provided in the 1942 budget.

In answer to questions the Com-

missioner denied the department had fewer men on patrol duty at night than in the daytime, or that posts had been cut down since the system of radio cars was installed. He said two sergeants and fifteen patrolmen were used at La Guardia Field and that the policemen assigned to picket lines and other strike duty as of Thursday numbered 215.

The police officials with whom Commissioner Valentine conferred included Chief Inspector Louis F. Costuma, in charge of the uniformed force; Assistant Chief Inspector John J. Ryan, in charge of detectives; Sixth Deputy Commissioner John H. Morris, in charge of juvenile aid; Deputy Inspector Hugo O. Wunsche, in charge of motorcycle police, and Deputy Inspector Thomas L. Byrnes, in charge of mounted police.

Others conferring at Police Headquarters were Deputy Chief Inspector John J. Conway, in charge of Manhattan West; Inspector John W. Sutter, in charge of Harlem; Superintendent Gerald Morris of the Bureau of Telegraph, and the captains of the Central Park, East Sixty-seventh Street, East 104th Street, East 126th Street, West Sixty-eighth Street, West 123d Street, West 135th Street and West 152d Street stations.

The following detective heads also conferred: Acting Deputy Chief Inspector Patrick Kenny, commanding Manhattan East; Deputy Inspector Conrad H. Rothengast, in charge of Manhattan West; Acting Captain Vincent J. Kiernan, in charge of the Fourth District, and Acting Captain James C. Pritchard, in charge of the Sixth District.

Acting Mayor Newbold Morris said yesterday that the Legislature should tackle crime conditions in Harlem as a State problem, because the city with its limited financial resources was unable to handle it.

"I think it is a matter of State concern," Mr. Morris said. "Harlem's population is growing constantly, with an increased birth rate and decreased death rates, plus the migration of Negroes to this city. If the present trend continues there will be 1,000,000 Negroes in Harlem before long, and their needs must be met."

"Harlem needs an extensive program of slum clearance, model housing, school construction and the providing of more recreational opportunities for its residents. I think the Legislature should lay out a five-year plan and spend as much as \$100,000,000 to put it through. The city cannot handle the task because of its financial condition."

The Council President, who was Acting Mayor during Mayor La

Guardia's trip to Washington, said he was interested in a proposed reorganization of the Urban League, devoted to social betterment of the Negro.

Complaint From Brooklyn

Despite Commissioner Valentine's optimistic report on Brooklyn, Mgr. John L. Belford, rector of the Roman Catholic Church of the Nativity at Classon Avenue and Madison Street, Brooklyn, complained to Mayor La Guardia in a letter yesterday that four Catholic churches in the Bedford-Stuyvesant area, which is roughly analogous to the Harlem district in Manhattan, had been forced to abandon their evening services because the streets were not safe for their parishioners to travel at night. Saying that the lives of citizens were endangered, he asked for adequate police protection in the future.

Dr. Milton J. Ferguson, chief librarian of the Brooklyn Public Library, revealed that library branches are "practically deserted" at night in the Bedford-Stuyvesant, Fort Greene and South Brownsville sections of Brooklyn, all of which have large Negro populations. He said that women are afraid to go through the streets to the libraries at night, and that some women employees return to their homes from the libraries in fear and trembling every night.

Only last week, he said, a girl librarian in the Fort Greene district was set upon on the street at night, her eye blackened and her purse snatched.

Mgr. Belford told a reporter that similar "deplorable conditions" to those in Harlem existed in his part of Brooklyn, which, he said, needs "not only protection but salvation." Besides his own church, he added, those that had been forced to discontinue evening services are the Church of Our Lady of Victory at Throop Avenue and McDonough Street, the Holy Rosary Church at Chauncey Street and Reid Avenue, and the Church of Our Lady of Good Counsel at Putnam Avenue and Ralph Avenue.

"The situation is so bad," he continued, "that women parishioners are afraid to go through the streets to attend church at night. Only on rare occasions is it deemed safe to hold evening services now."

"There are not enough police to handle all the complaints of citizens being molested on the streets and of houses being broken into."

Influx From Harlem

According to Mgr. Belford, his congregation has decreased from 8,000 to 4,000 in the last five years, the period in which many Negroes, forced out of Harlem by the over-crowding and high rents there,

have migrated along the route of the new Eighth Avenue subway to settle in the old brownstone houses of the Bedford-Stuyvesant section, formerly occupied by substantial middle-class families.

The influx of Negroes, he went on, has caused such bad housing conditions, not to speak of attendant social problems, that in a tenement house directly across the street from his church not only are people sleeping five and six in a room, but the rooms are being rented in three eight-hour shifts to three sets of roomers.

Mgr. Belford asserted that conditions in Brooklyn were getting worse instead of better, contrary to Commissioner Valentine's report. Children attending parochial schools in the district, he went on, have been attacked by Negro children attending the near-by public schools.

Reports of purse-snatching, "mugging," petty hold-ups and robberies, burglaries, thefts and breaking into automobiles and other street crimes have been reported not only from the Bedford-Stuyvesant district but also from the Fort Greene district south of the navy yard and from the South Brownsville district, both of which have large Negro populations.

Observers say that complaints by churches and civic organizations have resulted in doubling or trebling of police patrols for short periods, during which crime decreases, but that these periods are followed by the restoration of normal police patrols, and then crime again increases.

Rector Backs Valentine

Supporting Commissioner Valentine and disagreeing with Mgr. Belford about the improvement of conditions in Brooklyn, the Rev. Dr. Robert Rogers, rector of Good Shepherd Protestant Episcopal Church, McDonough Street near Lewis Avenue, in the Bedford area, Brooklyn, where evening services were dropped two years ago because women parishioners complained of being annoyed by purse-snatchers, said yesterday there "were nothing like so many hold-ups" now. He expressed confidence in the police to maintain control, though he said an influx of Negroes in the neighborhood caused a general feeling of timidity among white persons.

"What I am urging my people to do is to try something constructive among these people," Dr. Rogers said.

The Bedford Protestant Ministers Association, of which Dr. Rogers is a member, voted yesterday at a monthly meeting to invite a Negro pastor to confer with the association at the January meeting on the mutual problems of whites

and Negroes. It was also decided to devote an offering to be taken on Thanksgiving Day at a union service of Protestant churches in the Bedford area to the support of a weekday religious education program for Negroes, which includes classes of children released from school for the purpose.

The Rev. Dr. Frederick W. Lewis of the Throop Avenue Presbyterian Church, Brooklyn, head of a committee of the Bedford Protestant Ministers Association in charge of the week-day religious education project for Negroes, said that more than 200 Negro children were attending "fifteen to twenty" classes. He said they received simple Bible instruction and were taught prayers and hymns by volunteer teachers, mostly white, but including Negroes. Miss Ruth B. MacNeill of Boston is paid superintendent of the project.

The Rev. Dr. Alfred Grant Walton of the Tompkins Avenue Congregational Church, Brooklyn, said he felt conditions in the area were "notably improved and the situation is much better than two or three years ago."

15-1941

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Negro Leaders Hit Police Terror

Blame Situation in Harlem on Lack of Decent Living Conditions

NOV 9 1941 By Beth McHenry

Urging the people of the entire city to unite with the Negro people to end the distress and suffering of Harlem, prominent Negro leaders yesterday denounced the attempt of New York police and press to provoke a race riot in Harlem through a campaign of vilification and terror against the Negro people.

Rev. Clayton B. Powell, pastor of Abyssinia Baptist Church and American Labor Party candidate for City Council, decried the attempt of the press to manufacture a "crime wave" and emphasized that "if the same space had been accorded through the years to Harlem's economic, social and political problems, the results today would be different than they are."

This is not a question that can be solved by a larger police force. It can only be solved by unity of all the people of Manhattan in aiding the Negro struggle for social, economic and political emancipation.

The press campaign of slander against the Negro people reached its height yesterday in a New York Times report of a statement by Thomas H. Doyle, president of the Midtown Real Estate Association, one of the large interests which have profited from the miserable conditions of Harlem housing. Doyle blamed "relief handouts" for the situation in Harlem.

POWELL URGES UNITY

Dr. Powell, now running second in the Manhattan race for City Council, appealed for "unity of all the people of Manhattan in aiding the Negro struggle for social, economic and political emancipation."

"The so-called 'crime wave' in Harlem is, first of all, not a 'crime wave' in the accepted sense of the world, and, secondly, it is not recent," Dr. Powell said. "This has been a gradual development, the result of economic and social barriers ringed around Harlem, making it a Ghetto. This community's

The maintenance of this unity

NEW YORK

requires that the city of New York not only protect the people of Harlem but, what is more important, take all measures to provide for Harlem's people decent housing, jobs, more and better schools and recreational centers—all of these free from Jim-Crowism and police terror."

NOV 9 1941
WRIGHT CONDEMNS TERROR

Richard Wright, author of "Native Son" and winner of the Spingarn medal for outstanding achievement, bitterly condemned those economic and social factors the fascist methods employed by which are the basic causes for such New York's police department against Harlem's people.

"Harlem needs jobs, not terror," Mr. Wright said yesterday. "The cause of the widespread juvenile delinquency is the result of widespread poverty, broken homes, lack of job opportunities, recreational and educational facilities. The present police methods can serve only to aggravate the situation.

"It is interesting to note that the city officials, in commenting upon the situation, described it as a 'crime wave.' This in itself is a slander upon the people of Harlem who are striving toward decent living standards under appalling handicaps.

CALLS IT PROVOCATION

"The situation contains dangerous and inflammatory material. One wonders if the Police Department of New York is not deliberately trying to incite a riot situation. A great many of the race riots in America have stemmed directly from police brutality, meted out to Negro children, for nothing inflames public opinion among Negroes more than such mistreatment accorded children.

NOV 9 1941
The situation is of such a nature as to awaken to responsibility and forthright action the articulate element in Negro community. The Negro people should not wait for the police to define and interpret the situation, they should do so themselves, carrying their views of what is happening to all the people of the city."

Horace Marshall, vice president of the Manhattan Council of the National Negro Congress, also vigorously condemned the attempt to stigmatize the Negro people with "criminal tendencies."

CONCERN OF ENTIRE CITY

"We are displeased with the efforts of the press and others to stigmatize the whole Negro people for the situation which has developed around the Central area," he declared.

"The far-reaching circumstances which have provoked these incidents become the concern and responsibility of all the people in New York City.

"The National Negro Congress is pledged without compromise to the Spingarn medal for outstanding achievement, bitterly condemned those economic and social factors the fascist methods employed by which are the basic causes for such New York's police department against Harlem's people.

NOV 9 1941
New York Times
New York, N. Y.

TRAGEDY IN HARLEM

Gangs of boys between the ages of 8 and 16 or 18, beginning a career of lawbreaking by petty thefts from storekeepers, going from that to holding up other youngsters for a few pennies, and graduating into murder: such is the situation in and around Harlem as light has been thrown upon it following the brutal killing of 15-year-old James O'Connell. It is shocking to learn that of the three suspects in the O'Connell murder still awaiting a hearing, one is but 12 years old and the other two only 16 years old.

NOV 9 1941
We need more police protection in areas where such crimes occur. We may be appalled at the youth of the criminals, but they must be run down and placed where their viciousness will no longer endanger the public.

When these steps have been taken, there are still questions to be asked. What is there in the history of the young gangster that makes him what he is? It is hard to reform a youth already hardened in criminal ways.

NOV 9 1941
Some youngsters may be so twisted mentally that they will never grow into good citizens. But there must be hundreds and thousands now growing up who do have potentially good material for citizenship if only they can be subject to wholesome influences. Police Commissioner Valentine not only speaks of a shortage of policemen but pertinently calls attention to poor housing conditions in Harlem. Here is a task for the parent, the clergyman, the social worker and the teacher, not merely for the policeman.

NOV 9 1941
Four other cases have been reported at City College. At 7:50 P. M. on Oct. 29 a man student was held up at the point of a knife by three Negroes who appeared to be in their 'teens, and was robbed of his wristwatch and some change. The robbery took place in a well-lighted street, one block from the school, at Convent Avenue and 141st Street.

On Oct. 30 at 1:40 P. M. three

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

CITY COLLEGE GIRLS TOLD TO SHUN PARK

Evening Students Warned to Keep on Well-Lighted Streets After Attack on One

5 CASES IN ALL REPORTED

Others Are Attempts to Hold Up Men During Last Month

Near the Institution

NOV 9 1941

Following an attack by six Negroes on a girl student on the night of Oct. 7, Dr. Walter A. Knittle, assistant director of the City College evening session, it was learned yesterday, sent a warning to all classes on Oct. 14 that it was "quite unwise" to traverse St. Nicholas Park, which lies just east of the City College library building between St. Nicholas Avenue and St. Nicholas Terrace, at any time "because of the danger of attack by hold-up men."

NOV 9 1941
"This neighborhood has become a serious hazard for the safety of our students," he advised, "and I should like also to caution the girl students to be extremely careful in leaving late at night that they stay on well-lit streets and, if possible, in groups near their own safety."

NOV 9 1941
The student attacked on Oct. 7 was walking through the park on her way to school for an evening session class when she was accosted by six Negroes between the ages of 12 and 14. She fled but was chased by the hoodlums, one of whom threw a mallet that struck her in the back. Although she escaped, she suffered from shock for two hours afterward.

NOV 9 1941
Four other cases have been reported at City College. At 7:50 P. M. on Oct. 29 a man student was held up at the point of a knife by three Negroes who appeared to be in their 'teens, and was robbed of his wristwatch and some change. The robbery took place in a well-lighted street, one block from the school, at Convent Avenue and 141st Street.

Negroes apparently in their early twenties held up a man student at o'clock, a student was accosted by St. Nicholas Avenue and 143d Street and stole his watch. At a quarter past six on the same day two Negroes held up subway fare, the Negro grabbed a young Negro who asked him for a nickel for his watch. When the student replied he had only a nickel for his watch, the Negro grabbed another student in St. Nicholas Avenue and 141st Street. Another student in St. Nicholas Avenue and 141st Street, a Negro youth in their teens held up a man student at 6:30 P. M. the same day he had only a nickel for his watch. At a quarter past six on the same day two Negroes held up subway fare, the Negro grabbed a young Negro who asked him for a nickel for his watch. When the student replied he had only a nickel for his watch, the Negro grabbed another student in St. Nicholas Avenue and 141st Street. 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Another student in St. Nicholas Avenue and 141st Street, a Negro youth in their teens held up a man student at 6:3

Record Police Force Acts in Crime Wave

Suspect Seized in Burglary Of Home Opposite Mayor's

The heaviest police guard in years patrolled Harlem's streets and parks today as officials sought to curb a wave of crime which early yesterday struck close to the apartment of Mayor La Guardia at 1274 Fifth Ave.

The Mayor and his family were sleeping soundly in their apartment on the sixth floor when a burglar entered an apartment slugging Hurley Burgus, a porter across the hall, ransacked a bureau drawer and fled with \$10 of a revolver. When frightened by a woman's scream, the burglar reportedly had tried to rob Wilson Reaves, Negro, 23, 55 W. 100th St., who was taken to the prison ward of Harlem Hospital, charged with burglary.

Reaves, picked up Charles Reaves, Negro, 23, 55 W. 100th St., several hours later and charged him with the crime.

As the sunlight faded on the Negro juvenile delinquency problem in Harlem, a Negro youth perpetrator of a bold daylight hold-up in Brooklyn, The Bronx, said to be about 15, entered the Apollo Theater, 1527 Fulton St., Brooklyn, during the noon hour, with his hand thrust into his pocket as though grasping a gun, and forced the owner, George Stanitis, to give him \$375. The youth escaped.

Harlem Situation Improves.

Police Commissioner Valentine said today that conditions in Harlem have improved since the drive. He did not elaborate on the statement, but Chief Inspector John J. De Martino, in charge of uniformed men on the East Side, said after a tour of the Harlem area that he is "very satisfied with the work of the police."

The burglary in the Mayor's house highlighted the week end lawlessness in Harlem which included the usual sordid assortment of stabbings, robberies and shootings.

One of the stabbings caused the death of Leslie Taitt, 45, Negro, 57 E. 122nd St. Police said that his common-law wife, Carlotta Meyers, 37, became so angry when Taitt accused her of buying him cheap shirts for his birthday that she attacked him with a kitchen knife.

Patrolman Robert Murray shot Carl Wilson, 25, Negro, in the leg early yesterday while the latter was running from a bar and grill at 594 Lenox Ave., which he al-

Report Submitted.

As the official spotlight continued to play on crime in Harlem, the Society for the Prevention of Crime, 42 Broadway, released a report based on a six-month study of adolescent crime.

"If we spent twice as much money for more and better probation officers . . . we would need to spend less money on jails and policemen," was one of the conclusions reached in the report.

In a sermon commemorating the founding of the Abyssinian Baptist Church in Harlem the Rev. Dr. A. Clayton Powell, pastor, said:

"The so-called recent crime wave is neither a crime wave nor is it recent. It is not a crime wave in the accepted sense of the term because it is not being conducted by criminals. It is not recent because it dates to the beginning of the depression."

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Many Protest to Judge In Negro Youth Trial

NOV 25 1941
Deluge Angers Court in Case of Two Youths Accused of Alleged Attack

A hint was given yesterday of the kind of atmosphere that may prevail in the Court of General Sessions, Part 8, 13th floor of the new courthouse at 100 Center St., when Alfredo Ortiz, 17, Puerto Rican, and George Johnson, 18, a Negro, go on trial before Judge Jonah Goldstein allegedly for attacking a woman on Oct. 27, although he knew nothing about

Judge Goldstein, obviously angry, said in a loud voice before a court-room crowded with jurors, prospective jurors, witnesses and spectators, that when he entered his chambers yesterday morning he found "a barrage of letters and telegrams," which he described as "foreign propaganda to influence this court."

Adding that, "as usual, they contain no facts and that he would not be swayed by hysterical telegrams," Judge Goldstein said he "deplored" the willingness of people to sign their names to such documents. He then called upon Morris Dickman, defense attorney, to "notify these youths" not to try to influence the court in this manner.

LETTERS FILED IN COURT

Mr. Dickman retorted that he was defense counsel and was not a party to the letter-writing of which the judge complained. He said that postponement of the trial, asked Judge Goldstein "not to be influenced by all other minorities in refusing them

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

Man Found Dead, Suicide's Verdict

NOV 22 1941

Found lying across his bed with a bullet wound in his head, Everiro Rivero, 35, of 124 West 112th St., was pronounced a suicide by police Monday evening. The discovery was made by a friend, Carlos Castro, of 1643 Madison Ave.

According to Detective Finnin of the West 123rd St. precinct, the man apparently shot himself with a .25 calibre automatic in a despondent mood over financial and other personal affairs. His sister, Alice, of 112 West 72nd St. was notified.

the story of a crime wave in Harlem," and said that the so-called crime wave existed chiefly in the columns of certain newspapers.

The following organizations signed one telegram: Committee for Neighborhood Welfare Work, Central Baptist Church, 9th A. D. Union Non-Partisan Club, Manhattan Council for Civil Rights, Negro Youth Congress, 9th A. D. Tenants League, 9th A. D. American Labor Party, 9th A. D. National Negro Congress, International Workers Order of the 9th A. D., Workers Alliance. Patrick Reilly, of the Transport Workers Union and chairman of the 11th A. D. American Labor Party, was among a large number of others who sent letters and telegrams.

NOV 25 1941

The defense had previously asked for postponement of the trial because of insufficient time for preparation. The request had been denied on the plea of Assistant District Attorney Ernest Lappano that "public policy" demanded an immediate trial. Mr. Dickman in an affidavit yesterday stated as a further reason for postponement his belief that the youth Ortiz "should be sent to the Bellevue Hospital Psychiatric Division for examination as to his present sanity."

Judge Goldstein ordered an examination of Ortiz by the psychiatric clinic of Bellevue. The result will be known when the case is called at 10 A.M. today.

Mr. Dickman, answering Mr. Lappano's plea for a speedy trial because "public policy demands it," said in his affidavit:

"Are we going to allow ourselves to become hysterical and lose sight of the fact that the defendants if they wish." He thereupon examined the batch of letters and telegrams and, declaring that they came from a "cross section of the hysteria to enter into the orderly processes of law to the extent of being filed with other papers in the case. Judge Goldstein order that they be so filed."

NOV 26 1941
Examination of the letters and telegrams showed that they came from organization and individuals from the Harlem area and that few weeks is really serious—and I they asked postponement of the don't agree that such a thing exists youths' trial until "an adequate defense" could be prepared. A "group is an indictment of those who fail of 40" at a meeting of the 98th and to correct the evils of poverty, 99th St., National Negro Congress segregation and discrimination.

sent one of the telegrams. A letter "These same people have failed to from the St. James Presbyterian recognize the unbearable conditions Church, St. Nicholas Ave. and 141st which exist in Harlem, such as in-party to the letter-writing of which St., in addition to requesting post-adequate housing, high rents, discrimination against the Negroes and Goldstein "not to be influenced by all other minorities in refusing them

jobs in defense industry and every where else. My affidavit continues. One cannot intelligently separate the problems of housing, unemployment and racial prejudice from so-called juvenile delinquency and every

15-1941

NORTH CAROLINA

Charlotte, N. C. Tribune
January 9, 1941

CRUSADERS ASK ACTION TO HELP REDUCE CRIME

Say Step Would Tend to Stop 'Degeneracy Of Our People.'

URGED AS EXPERIMENT
(S)
Spokesmen For Petitioners

Cite Success Of System In Other Southern Cities.

Members of the Community Crusaders, a Negro organization interested in lowering the city's crime rate, yesterday appeared before the city council with the urgent request that Negro policemen be appointed to "help us stop the decay and degeneracy of our people."

Of the 47 killings in Charlotte during 1940, all but 10 involved Negroes, according to Dr. J. S. Nathaniel Tross, a leader of the crusaders.

He asked that Negro men be added to the police force to patrol the Negro sections exclusively. This would not be a revolutionary step, he said, because Negro policemen have operated in other southern cities for a number of years and have definitely proved their efficiency.

"Charlotte," Dr. Tross said, "is becoming known abroad as a crime city. Negro policemen, as an experiment to be discarded if unsatisfactory, is the practical solution to the existing problem."

GOOD EFFECT SEEN.

He went on to say that Negroes understand each other and that a Negro officer, no doubt, would have great effect upon the people of the section in which he was stationed. There are 40,000 Negroes in Charlotte, he said.

Mrs. H. L. McCrorie said it is

not unusual to see Negro women congregated on the streets at all hours of the night and that the women are involved in practically all crimes investigated by the city police department.

An agency is being formed, she said, to furnish recreation and club work for the women and girls. However, the need is great for Negro policemen. Although street lights have been installed in the Brooklyn section, where most crime takes place, Mrs. McCrorie contended the lights alone will not solve the problem.

Thad Tate, and others, likewise urged the council to break the shackles of prejudice and race distinction training Negro men to do police work in the Negro sections.

Elkin, N. C. Tribune
June 26, 1941

Negro Awakened To Be Executed

A 51-year-old Mecklenburg negro, convicted last July of first degree murder, had to be awakened Friday morning at Central Prison to meet his death in the gas chamber.

Guards found the negro, husky, sleeping soundly when they went to his cell to lead him to the room of execution. Once he entered the lethal chamber he apparently realized what was happening and beads of sweat formed on his wrinkled forehead.

The death switch was thrown at 10:04 and as the cloud of white gas poured out from under the chair, Cureton screamed so loudly that he could be heard distinctly by witnesses outside the chamber. He slumped back in the chair after a brief struggle and was pronounced dead in 14 minutes and 44 seconds.

Prison Chaplain Lawrence A. Watts said that Cureton admitted killing William Hennekin, a Charlotte negro, last year after an argument over a card game. Cureton said that both he and Hennekin "had been drinking and gambling and that the crime was the result of their condition caused by drinking alcoholic beverages." "He feels that he is a Christian and is ready to face God," Reverend Watts said.

Charlotte, N. C. News
February 13, 1941

Easy' Mark

Without Case Histories
Diagnoses May Be Faulty

A gang of Negroes, charged with 30-odd jobs of breaking into locked automobiles, were arrested by the police white men and a Negro who had entered two of them. At least two of them, it appeared, had court records with recent entries.

One of them, according to Chief Littlejohn, had been up on numerous counts, including larceny and arson. Another was tried and found guilty only a few weeks ago for the theft of a tray of ring mountings from a local jewelry store. Despite his having appeared on police dockets "with monotonous regularity," he was handed a suspended sentence and told, trustingly to go and sin no more.

The immediate return of these two Negroes to their careers in petty crime puts the court in a doltish light. But as a matter of fact, it may not be altogether the court's fault.

Superior Court judges rotare, and for Noah Cureton, sleeping soundly and snoring when they went to his cell to lead him to the room of execution. Once he entered the lethal chamber he apparently realized what was happening and beads of sweat formed on his wrinkled forehead.

Solicitor Carpenter usually asks, "Boy, have you ever been in court before?" and lets the question go with the "Nawsuh" that he usually receives in answer. But as for having a written record, a sort of case history to help with the law's diagnosis, it just isn't done.

Whether this neglect is chargeable to the police or to court officials, we don't know. But as long as the court doesn't know the records of those who come before it, it will continue to make doltish mistakes in judgment and the cops will have to cope with the crimes of repeat offenders.

Anderson, S. C. Independent Trib
December 19, 1941

LOOK FOR NEGRO

Anderson police last night were looking in the Negro section here for an escaped Greenville County convict who reportedly hit a chain-gang guard in the head as he made a bold dash for freedom from the

Raleigh, N. C. News & Observer
June 4, 1941

Perverted Justice

A perversion of justice was undoubtedly the last thing in the mind of Judge Q. K. Mimocks, when he pronounced judgment in Wayne County Superior Court upon three white men and a Negro who had appeared. At least two of them, it tered pleas of guilty to charges of an unusually brutal assault upon a second Negro, whom the quartet had suspected of stealing a cache of liquor.

"You are the yellowest, dirtiest cowards I ever heard of," the judge told the defendants. But, his actions belied the words. The defendants were not punished, they were allowed to escape punishment in order that the assaulted Negro might have the benefit of a \$500 fine.

But, men who are a disgrace to their race, as the judge described the defendants, should not be allowed to purchase immunity from punishment for \$500 or any other sum. It is easy to understand the sympathy for the injured Negro which prompted the judgment. But, justice is impersonal. The defendants were being prosecuted in the name of the State of North Carolina. The good name of the State demanded that justice be done. Obviously, justice was not done in this case and the very judge who by his words set out to make an example of these defendants, ended by setting a precedent which, if followed in other courts, would give immunity to all able to buy it.

Tigerville prison camp, in Greenville County, late yesterday.

Authorities here were informed that the Negro was six feet tall, weighs approximately 195 pounds and might be wearing women's clothes. Greenville County officials said his last name was Moore.

They also said the Negro stole a late-model, flat-body Chevrolet truck to make his getaway and that he left in the general direction of Anderson.

Local police had found no trace of him at a late hour last night. They were informed of the escape by Glenn Coward, publisher of the Belton News, who said Greenville County officers were in that vicinity looking for the escanee.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

RACE WOMAN FREED; KILLED WHITE MAN

OCT 18 1941

WHITEVILLE, N. C. Oct. 16—(AP)—Failure of a Columbus county grand jury to find a true bill against Mrs. Mary Melvin in connection with the fatal stabbing last August 2 of J. E. Formy Dubal, 26, white employee of the State Highway Department, resulted in freeing of Mrs. Melvin of a murder charge last Wednesday.

Dubal was fatally stabbed at the Blue Moon filling station here and the woman's husband was arrested with her shortly after the murder. The husband, however, was released after the coroner's inquest.

Testimony of witnesses said that Dubal went into the station that night and that there was an argument. None of the witnesses saw the knife wielded.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Confessed Co-defendant Freed By N.C. Judge

LILLINGTON, N. C.—(AP)—Superior Court Judge John J. Burney freed John De McLaurin of charges of housebreaking and stealing here Saturday after a jury had brought in a not guilty verdict for A. B. Godwin, Jr., Dunn, N. C., white, who with Burney had confessed to the crime.

Godwin and De McLaurin had admitted that they had stolen a sewing machine, bed clothing, wearing apparel and groceries from Worth Johnson, white tenant in Godwin's building. Although McLaurin testified against Godwin, the jury, after four hours deliberation, exonerated Godwin.

Judge Burney, after reprimanding the jury for its decision, said to McLaurin, "If Godwin's not guilty, you are not guilty." He then ordered McLaurin released without paying any court cost or fine.

"I am not going to sit here and send one man to jail for the same thing another man did, and have a jury find him not guilty," said the judge.

NEGRO HELD FOR ARMY BY POLICE IN RALEIGH

Man Released After Arrest
by Soldier Guarding Vi-
tal Property

Frank Williams, 29-year-old Negro of Richmond, Va., was still being held for the Army by police last night after being brought to the station Wednesday night by Corporal Pitters, one of the soldiers guarding vital bridges and utilities in the vicinity of Raleigh.

William N. Smith, 44, of Greensboro, who was taken to the police

station Wednesday night by P.F.C. N. King, also an Army guard, was released to the Army yesterday. Lieutenant Colonel Edward J. Curren, officer in command of the Army post here, said he believed Smith had been released after investigation.

No explanation was given as to where the men were picked up nor what they had been doing that led to their being retained.

DEC 12 1941

15-1941

NORTH CAROLINA

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

"Charlotte, N. C., Becoming Known As A 'Crime City'"

So Colored Leaders Request Appointment of Negro Police Officers to "Stop Decay and Degeneracy of Race."

JAN 8 1941

CHICAGO, N. C., Jan. 16.—An urgent request that Negro policemen be appointed "to help us stop the decay and degeneracy of our people," was presented to the City Council Wednesday by members of the Community Crusaders, an organization interested and active in lowering the city's crime rate.

According to Dr. J. S. N. Tross, a leader of the Crusaders—of the 47 homicides that occurred in Charlotte last year, all but 10 involved Negroes. Requesting that Negro men be added to the police force and assigned to the duty of patrolling Negro sections exclusively, Dr. Tross pointed out that such action would by no means be a revolutionary step, as Negro policemen have operated for a number of years in other Southern cities, and have definitely proved their worth and efficiency.

BECOMING KNOWN AS A "CRIME CITY"

Stating that "Charlotte is becoming known far and wide as a 'crime city,'" Dr. Tross declared that "the employment of Negro policemen, as an experiment, to be discarded if unsatisfactory, is the practical solution of the existing problem."

Recalling that there are 40,000 Negroes in the city of Charlotte, he added that "Negroes understand each other," and he had no doubt that Negro officers would have and exercise a wide and wholesome influence for good in the sections in which they were stationed.

The request for employment of these policemen was supported by many white residents of prominence, both men and women, who called upon city officials to "break the shackles of prejudice and race distinction" by training Negro men to do police work in the colored sections of the municipality which now has a total population of more than 100,000.

Taking the request under consideration, the Council promised early action.

Greensboro, N. C. News
January 17, 1941

OVERDONE.

Horace Shepherd, 20-years-old Durham negro, pleading guilty to six charges of stealing from parked cars is assessed as follows:

Traveling bag, two pairs of pants, brief-case and shirt-studs one year; overcoat, pair of gloves pajamas, necktie, one year three-piece suit, 18 months; overcoat and jacket, 18 months; woman's coat, 12 months; man's overcoat, 12 months.

In addition Horace is under \$1,000 bond for the alleged theft of an expensive fur coat.

Heaven forfend that we should ever be or feel called upon to take over the work of the super-McLaurin had confessed to the court at Durham or elsewhere; Godwin and De McLaurin had admitted that they had stolen a sewing machine, bed clothing, particularly crimes of violence. Sometimes we suspect even that there is genuinely a spirit of anarchy present in the place — especially when we watch traffic conditions in the morning.

For that matter we should think one case of larceny from a parked car would be about enough and 18 months perhaps a fine.

Horace at 20 cannot be taught in 18 months that it doesn't pay to steal, it seems foolish for the state to put him to post-graduate study unless the idea is to revenge itself upon him.

Frankly, we don't believe any 20-years-old Durham white lad would be given such a series of consecutive terms for a commensurate offense, and we seriously doubt if a police court

should be permitted to dish it out in such a fashion to a negro boy.

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

White Burglary Suspect, Negro Accomplice, Freed

DEC 7 - 1941

LILLINGTON, N. C., Nov. 27

Superior Court Judge John J. Burney freed John De McLaurin of charges of housebreaking and stealing here Saturday after a jury had brought in a not guilty verdict for A. B. Godwin, Jr., Dunn,

Heaven forfend that we should ever be or feel called upon to take over the work of the super-McLaurin had confessed to the

court at Durham or elsewhere; Godwin and De McLaurin had admitted that they had stolen a sewing machine, bed clothing, particularly crimes of violence. Sometimes we suspect even that there is genuinely a spirit of anarchy present in the place — especially when we watch traffic conditions in the morning.

Al-

over to Superior court under

\$1,000 bond for the stealing of Godwin, the jury, after four

one more garment if he has ad-

mitted his guilt and accepted

seven-years punishment for theft

of the others.

For that matter we should

think one case of larceny from a

parked car would be about

enough and 18 months perhaps a fine.

sufficient sentence. Certainly if

"I am not going to sit here and

send one man to jail for the same

thing another man did, and have the judge

a jury find him not guilty," said

Trial of the case began Thurs-

Charlotte N. C. News
February 26, 1941

A Ruiner

Explaining Town's Violence
Is a Tough Problem

The town was making good on its reputation for violence yesterday and with a vengeance. Four felons escaped from County Jail at the point of a gun and a white man with a long criminal record ripped a young policeman open with a knife.

Isolated instances, you might call them. But we are pretty sure that they are all a part of a general picture of something — something which is perhaps not entirely clear but which is certainly sinister.

How does it really happen that this town which claims to be the greatest church-going town in the world, planted in a county famous for its piety and Puritan code since the earliest days, is the most murderous town in the United States and one of the most violent towns in the world?

The Negro? Slums? Poverty? Inefficient police organization and methods? Inefficient prosecution and weak judgments in the courts? Corruption spreading out poisonously from bootleg and racket rings?

Other Southern towns have far more Negroes in proportion, a murder rate of a third or a quarter ours. Other towns have slums as bad or worse, more poverty, inefficient police and courts, corruption.

Perhaps it is that here they have all come together in a peculiar combination that is lacking elsewhere — that opens the way wide to crime and particularly crimes of violence. Sometimes we suspect even that there is genuinely a spirit of anarchy present in the place — especially when we watch traffic conditions in the morning.

The thing obviously deserves harder and more systematic study than it has been given and an adequate program

Judge Burney, after reprimanding

the jury for its decision, said based on the findings.

to McLaurin, "If Godwin's not

guilty, you are not guilty". He

then ordered McLaurin released

without paying any court cost or

to tell whether they are "Negro, Chinese, Japanese, Hebrew,

or White."

NOV 15 1941

Charlotte N. C. Observer
April 12, 1941

SINK SUGGESTS JAIL STOCKADE

Judge Stresses Need For Work

Area For Negro Women

Serving Minor Terms.

Judge H. Hoyle Sink yesterday ended the first week of his criminal superior court in Mecklenburg by disposing of several cases and advocating that the county establish some sort of detention camp for Negro women prisoners and for short-term white prisoners.

The judge on other occasions has called attention to the need for some place to which Negro women may be sent when they are convicted for misdemeanors. At present they have to be sentenced to county jail. It was explained that they cannot be sent to State prison unless they are convicted of a felony.

Judge Sink said that there should be some place where the women can be sentenced, and provision made for them to do some kind of work. Men prisoners may be sent to the roads, and white women may be sentenced to the Industrial home, but the only place a Negro woman defendant may be sent to serve a short-term sentence is the county jail on top of the courthouse where there is little for them to do but sit in their cells all day and be fed by the county government.

The case which brought out the judge's statement was that of Emma Simmons who got two years for larceny. Other cases included those of Eugene Kelly who was given 18 months suspended on assault with a deadly weapon charges. Willie Mae Belt got two to six years for assault with a deadly weapon.

was ordered
day, but a mistrial was ordered
after the first day and another
trial was started.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

CHALLENGES VALIDITY OF OATH MADE ON NEW TESTAMENT

CLINTON, N. C., May 15—(By ANP)—The question of whether oaths made upon the New Testament are as valid as those made on a full ~~Bible~~ was the basis ~~of an appeal~~ made to the North Carolina supreme court from the Sampson county superior court.

The appeal to the high court came in Tuesday afternoon when Charles L. Guy Sr., white, attorney for Moses Warren, made a motion to set aside a verdict of guilty of larceny which the lower court judge denied. The motion urged that the oaths made by superior court jurors and witnesses were not binding since they were taken ~~on~~ New Testament instead of a Bible. MAY 1941

Warren was accused and found guilty of stealing a sum of money from a Sampson county farm woman. It was money she had accumulated from the sale of chickens. Warren was given two years.

Raleigh, N. C., News & Observer
June 1, 1941

Judge Sharply Condemns Men For Whipping Negro

White Men Are Told They
'Are Disgrace to Race' by
Wayne County Jurist

Goldsboro, May 31.—"I hope that I never have to talk to anybody like this again," said Judge Q. K. Nimocks of Fayetteville, presiding over Wayne Superior Court as he delivered what he characterized as the sternest lecture ever administered in his career as a jurist.

He was addressing Marvin and Bruce Worrell of Goldsboro, Route 3, Carl P. Smith of Goldsboro, all white and John Faison. The white men pleaded guilty to charges of assault on the Negro with a deadly weapon.

"You are the yellowest, dirtiest cowards I ever heard of. You are a disgrace to the white race. The only reason that I am accepting your plea of guilty is that if a civil action were to be brought against you the poor Negro that you beat up probably wouldn't get a cent," Judge Nimocks said.

"Talk about Hitler's persecuting the Jews—that's bad—but my blood ran cold when this witness told me of what you did to him. I'm afraid what I'm saying to you isn't going to do any good—you are too common, too cowardly and too dirty to let it sink in," he continued.

Judge Lectures Negro.

In addressing the Negro defendant Judge Nimocks continued, "Everything I said applies to you also, except that part about being a disgrace to the white race. You're a disgrace to your own race and the skin you wear."

Frank Moses, prosecuting witness, told of the assault upon him. He said the defendants, who had accused him of stealing liquor from a cache, picked him up in their car and told several people they were "going to kill them" a Negro. They carried Moses to the woods where one of the men held two pistols on him and another held a rifle as a third tore off branches and beat Moses on his bare skin. The men swapped weapons among themselves and alternately beat him, Moses said.

Thorough Beating.

After they left him in his injured condition, the Negro made his way to the Goldsboro police station where Patrolman Carl L. Smith heard his story. Smith said there was hardly a square inch on Moses body which wasn't bruised and bleeding.

Judge Nimocks sentenced the defendants to two years on the pub-

lic roads, with judgment suspended on payment of the costs and the sum of \$500 "for the personal use and benefit of the prosecuting witness, Frank Moses." In passing sentence Judge said, "I consented to a plea only because a judgment against you wouldn't have given the witness anything."

Globe and
Independent

Nashville, Tenn.

WHITE POSTMASTER IS UNDER CRIMINAL INDICTMENT BY U. S.

FBI Nabs Paul R. Younts
Who Was on Leave
And In Army

CHARLOTTE, N. C., June 19—(ANP)—Criminal indictment proceeding against Lt.-Col. Paul R. Younts, white, postmaster on military leave, of this city, and 1 other post office employee, including two Negroes, were ordered in Washington, on Thursday, by Asst. U. S. Atty. JUN 20 1941 Wendell Berg, in charge of the criminal division of the department of justice.

The indictment proceedings were ordered as a result of the sweeping three-way investigation of the political activities of Younts and his henchmen, by FBI—Civil Service, and post office department inspectors, held here last summer and was done after the department of justice called Lamar Caudle, U. S. district attorney of the western federal district of North Carolina, to come to Washington from a South Carolina summer vacation spot, and he was given orders to proceed with the charges at once. Joseph Young and Frank James are the two Negroes involved.

It had been thought here that Younts had been able to have the affair "hushed up," after no action had been taken by the post office department or the civil service commission, and the sudden action came like a bolt, and set the entire city abuzz.

Younts was formerly president of the National Association of Postmasters, and it was with him that a local Negro mail clerk,

Trezzvant Anderson, had been for nearly two years trying to persuade ~~the~~ JUN 20 1941 the state to appoint a certified Negro eligible to the carrier force. Younts had sought Mr. Anderson's removal from the railway mail department as a result of his activities.

Negro Labor News

Houston, Texas

North Carolina Negro Loses Fight To Bar Extradition

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(ANP)—William Wellman, 36, lost his fight last week to prevent his extradition to North Carolina to face a rape case charge when Judge Goldsborough ruled in favor of the state of North Carolina, in one of the most peculiar cases yet to come before the court. Wellman is held here under bond.

Charging that Wellman was guilty of raping JUL 5 1941 a white woman in Statesville, N. C., on February 11, Wellman was arrested here in April. Extradition was ordered a month later in the face of failure of the complaining witness and a colored maid who accompanied her to identify Wellman in police headquarters and in the face of a contractor's records that Wellman was working at Fort Belvoir on the day it is alleged the crime was committed.

The case aroused the interest of the NAACP and they secured a writ of habeas corpus. In defiance of the writ, Sheriff John Moore took the representative from North Carolina.

Faced with a possible contempt citation, Sheriff Moore returned with Wellman for the habeas corpus hearing, bringing with him a state's representative from North Carolina.

Mrs. Cora B. Sowers, the alleged victim, now declares she readily recognized the man in the police line-up, but wouldn't say positively.

Sheriff Moore was excused for not returning Wellman here last week as ordered by the court, relieved of the \$500 fine, which under the district law would have been turned over to Wellman, as a prisoner unlawfully held. JUL 5 1941

Judge Goldsborough ruled in favor of the state of North Carolina, although defense attorneys, headed by Thurman Dodson, noted an appeal in the case which bids fair to become a national affair.

Hours In Carolina Jail
OCT 30 1941
Awarded \$300 For Three

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

ASHEBORO, N. C.—(ANP)—Matthew Benton, of Julian, Liberty, N. C., for false imprisonment by a Randolph county jury here Friday in superior civil court.

Benton filed suit for \$10,000 against Henry Staley, Lacy Staley, and J. S. James, Liberty justice of peace, after he had been imprisoned on what evidence indicated was a capias to collect costs on a claim and delivery in a civil action involving a cow of Benton's, on which Staley and the Farm Security administration had separate mortgages.

Staley denied having anything to do with Benton's arrest, but witnesses for the plaintiff testified that Benton had spent three hours in jail. Staley's attorney filed notice of appeal to the state supreme court.

15-1941

The Union
Cincinnati, Ohio

This is News!

Rabbi beaten by Jews

15-Ohio JAN. 23, 1941
**"THE FEMALE OF THE SPECIES,
IS MORE DEADLY THAN THE MALE,
JUST AS A SWORD FISH OFTEN,
IS MORE DANGEROUS THAN A WHALE.**

MON. 23 1941
With the arraignment Friday of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Sherman, 711 Ridgeway Avenue, Avondale, contents of a sealed indictment charging them with assaulting to kill Rabbi Eliezer Silver, 820 Hutchins Avenue, December 9, were revealed.

Prosecutor Carl W. Rich and his assistant, Louis F. Britten, disclosed that the evidence of the alleged assault was submitted to the grand jury after members of the Love Brothers congregation, over which Rabbi Silver presides, had testified. Apparently no report ever was made to the police.

In Police Court several months ago, Max Kut, then living at 3439 Reading Road, was charged with an assault upon Mrs. Sherman.

COURT ACTION RECALLED

Kut was named defendant in a civil suit filed in Common Pleas Court months ago by Sherman, operating the Reading Laundry and Dry Cleaners, Reading, O. Sherman asked dissolution of a partnership and appointment of a receiver for the laundry.

The charges against Kut grew out of an alleged fight in the Courthouse corridor, just outside the courtroom where Judge Stanley Struble had held a hearing in the receivership

Rich and Britten said that it was testified that Rabbi Silver suffered fracture of two ribs and other injuries in the assault upon him in December while walking on Washington Avenue. Sherman aid his wife drive up in an automobile and Mrs. Sherman jumped out and struck Rabbi Silver, it is charged. According to the story related to the prosecutors, a street car, passing at the time, was stopped and several of the passengers started to go to the aid of the injured man. Mrs. Sherman then returned to the automobile, but again alighted and renewed the attack after the street car had proceeded down the street.

Mrs. Sherman is alleged to have struck the rabbi about 15 times with a piece of iron, beating him as he lay on the ground. Chein Joselit, 54, Rockdale Avenue, ~~had~~ ^{was} to the rabbi's aid and pushed Mrs. Sherman away from the prostrate man. He also prevented Sherman from assaulting the wounded man, it is alleged.

Rabbi Silver was taken to the Washington Synagogue for first aid. He was confined for several weeks because of his injuries, it is stated.

After the indictment was returned Friday, Chief Deputy Sheriff John Behle and Deputy Raymond Kies of metal sheeting, window and door frames, radiators, steam pipes, and

OHIO

the county police arrested Sherman and his wife.

DENY ASSAULT

Mrs. Sherman and her husband after their arrest, denied any assault upon Rabbi Silver.

Mrs. Sherman said that she saw the rabbi on Washington Avenue and asked him to give her a contract which she claimed he had in his possession. She declared that Rabbi Silver told her he would not talk to her and called her an insulting name. (One paper states, "a street walker").

"I shoved the rabbi and he fell," Mrs. Sherman said. "If they say I struck him with anything or fractured his ribs it's a lie." Her husband said that he heard the rabbi make the remark to his wife. Both he and Mrs. Sherman denied, however, that he even touched the rabbi.

They told the reporters that a contract was signed between Sherman and Max Kut, relating to conduct of the laundry business, in the presence of Rabbi Silver. They said the rabbi, despite their pleas, had refused to give them that contract. Mrs. Sherman and her husband said they had appealed to Rabbi Silver on several instances, but that he had rejected their pleas.

Sherman and his wife late Friday were making preparations to obtain their release on bond.—Times-Star.

Pulaski Leader
Pulaski Citizen
July 16, 1941

QUARTET STEALS BUILDING; SELLS IT BACK TO OWNER

Columbus, Ohio—The city slicker who sold the Brooklyn bridge to the gullible traveler had nothing on this Negro quartet. Police charge them

with dismantling a four-story building, carting away the material in a truck, and then selling it back, piece by piece, to the original owner.

The youthful quartet allegedly carted away plumbing fixtures,

even elevator equipment, and then sold the materials for junk to the Goldberg Iron company.

The owner of the recently deserted building, Arthur Goldberg, has a half interest in the latter company.

The four youths, Gean Pickett, 19; Leonard Hebon, 25; Charles Cooper, 19; and Frank Dunlap, 19, were arrested while tearing up the floor of the building, police said.

Brought to headquarters, they assertedly confessed carting five truck-loads of material away from the building before their arrest. They were held under \$10,000 bond each.

15-1941

OKLAHOMA

Black Dispatch

Oklahoma City, Okla.

Hugo Jury Gives W. D. Lyons Life Sentence After Five Hours Deliberation

Marshall And Latimer Clash When Defense Seeks To Impeach Cheatwood Testimony

FEB 8 - 1941

Hotel Clerk Tells of Black Jack

FEB 8 - 1941

HUGO, Okla. Friday.—A jury of twelve farmers and ruralites today arrived at a verdict in the W. D. Lyons murder case after deliberating five hours and twenty minutes. The little flag-draped court room was filled to capacity when the clerk of the court was handed the jury verdict by Judge Childers and announced that Lyons had been condemned to menaces your homes." leave this fiendish brute his free-vited and given a lifetime prison sentence.

Early Friday morning, Judge Childers gave the im-prisonment an the "not guilty."

Betting Starts

Betting uptown during the morning and late Thursday night had been that the jury would bring in a life sentence, while a few contend the twelve men would become hopelessly hung.

The arguments made yesterday afternoon by state and defense counsel reached many dramatic climaxes. County Attorney Horton, during the course of his closing statement said, "A mad dog has been loose in this community and the state has caught him. We are asking you to send W. D. Lyons to the electric chair."

Mad Dog Aloose

Attorney Marshall, in answer to Horton, said, "I'll agree with just about half the county attorney has said regarding a mad dog being at large in this section, but the only place where I differ with Mr. Horton is in the fact that you haven't caught that mad dog. He's still aloose to prey upon you. Killing Lyons will still

fix the time and place when an act or a statement was made and I followed you closely yesterday: you did not do this."

Recall Cheatwood

Belden and Marshall held a hurried consultation and immediately following excused Mrs. Colclasure from the witness stand and recalled Cheatwood.

Deftly and carefully, Cheatwood was led back through a line of questioning which fixed the time and place when he made certain statements to E. O. Colclasure, father of Mrs. Elmer Rogers, and Mrs. Vernon Colclasure, and also statements Cheatwood had made in the presence of Albany Gipson, porter at the Webb Hotel, and Leslie Skeen, day clerk and bookkeeper at the Webb Hotel.

FEB 8 - 1941 Cheatwood Exposed

Mrs. Vernon Colclasure was then recalled, and after answering the usual opening questions, this colloquy followed:

Question: Did Vernie Cheatwood come to your home at any time after the death of your sister-in-law, Mrs. Rogers?

Answer: Yes.

Question: To whom did he talk?

Answer: I was not up but he talked to my father-in-law.

Question: What did he say?

Answer: He said "I beat that nigger from his knees down and (exhibiting a blackjack) "if I had had this the night before I would have gotten a confession out of him then."

Describes Blackjack

E. O. Colclasure was then called by the defense. He said he lived at Fort Towson and after substantiating the statement made by his daughter-in-law, said that Cheatwood came to the home and exhibited a blackjack made of red leather, and shaped like a biscuit.

"He put his legs up like this" (demonstrating to the jury) and hit it with the leather saying "I beat that boy last night for six or seven hours."

Had "Nigger Beater"

Albany Gipson, porter at the Webb Hotel, was then called to the stand and under questioning, said that Cheatwood stopped at

the hotel, and that during the course of the investigation the Phillips investigator came into the lobby and said:

"Go up to my room and look on the dresser and bring me my nigger-beater."

Gibson said he went up to the room and found a blackjack on the dresser. He returned and found Cheatwood standing at the head of the stairs.

"This is what I beat nigger boys' heads with," Gibson alleged Cheatwood said.

Exhibits Weapon

Leslie Skeen, hotel clerk at the Webb Hotel, was then called. He said that Cheatwood stopped at the hotel twice during January 1940. He said that the night Cheatwood sent for his blackjack he stood in the lobby and the hotel and exhibited the weapon to a crowd, saying, "I use the big end to git 'em with and the flat end to slap 'em."

Skeen then startled the courtroom when, being led on by Belden, he alleged Cheatwood had come to him the night before and asked him to forget what he had said to him.

Black Dispatch

Oklahoma City, Okla.

Justice Peeps Over Her Glasses

Here's a nice little squint at American democracy as it functions daily in Oklahoma courts:

A white woman, pleading guilty to accepting thousands of dollars in bribes, was given a suspended sentence last Saturday in the court of Judge Edgar Vaught. As a member of the Oklahoma City school board this woman violated a public trust and dishonored her official oath.

This week a colored woman, round guilty of securing \$500 through forgery effected upon an individual, was given three years sentence in the state penitentiary.

Of course the Black Dispatch believes that each of these women should suffer penalties if guilty of alleged crimes.

The question we raise relates to the difference in the penalties imposed. Why turn Mrs. Poole free and imprison Mrs. Smith? Does Justice actually peep over her glasses?

Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla.

More Police Protection

Last Sunday morning around 4:30, two half-drunk men fought like sea lions in front of U. S. Post Office sub-station No. 1, in the 300 block East Second street. They fought for fully 20 minutes with their fists while fifty onlookers cheered the early morning gladiators. The only police protection came from the crowd itself. One of the men finally knocked the other down and started kicking him in the face. Leaders in the crowd immediately stopped this, lifting the defeated man to his feet and shoving the two men apart.

Around four Sundays ago a man, beastly drunk, drove his car into the rear of the Black Dispatch, and, in the early morning hours his loud talk attracted this writer's attention. When we looked out the rear window, he was engaged in throwing a long, dangerous knife into his automobile and demanding a woman seated there, and whom he occasionally, but in vile terms, called his wife, to fight him. The spouse threw the knife out on the ground as rapidly as it was thrown into the car.

Every time he threw the knife into the car to the woman, who apparently was equally as drunk as the knife thrower, the enraged man would rush up to the car and dare the woman to use the knife. The only person to police this situation was this writer, who from the safety of the window, called out and told the intoxicated man he could not threaten to kill a human being on the Black Dispatch premises. For this we were roundly cursed. While we vainly looked for a "copper" the man disappeared.

We are attempting to emphasize the lack of police protection on the Eastside. There are hours at night and in the early morning when no Negro officer is on duty, and this was the period during which the above described incidents happened. This writer witnessed both of these disorders and they are representative of what happens on the Eastside continuously.

Last Saturday night more than six persons were cut and stabbed. Ambulances ran continuously and hospital attendants were busy taking stitches in the dangerously wounded. A stop should be put to these practices. A spring election is coming up when men will be asking for the suffrage of Negroes. Right now we should be making records and comparing notes.

The twenty thousand Negroes of Oklahoma City must curb a wave of violence sweeping the community. Let's lay the blame where it rightfully belongs. We need 24-hour patrols in the East Second and East Fourth street areas, and in addition to the police cars there should be beat policemen in these two congested business areas whom citizens may reach on a few moments notice. This is an urgent task that should claim the attention of the Oklahoma City Negro Chamber of Commerce.

15-1941

PENNSYLVANIA

The Union
Cincinnati, Ohio
565 ARRESTED!

No Warrants Issued!
No Formal Charges Filed

FEB 6 1941

Philadelphia—(CNA)—A thorough investigation and public hearings on police terror against Negro citizens here, which resulted in the mass arrest of 565 men and women on the nights of Nov. 16 and 17, 1940, was demanded this week by attorneys representing jointly the National Negro Congress and the Committee for People's Rights.

In a formal complaint filed with the Civil Service Commission, the arrests were described as "a gross violation of the law and a violation of fundamental constitutional rights."

The complaint quoted Director of Public Safety James E. Malone as giving his "full approval" to the mass arrests and demanded that his conduct be examined.

FEB 6 1941

Police officers and public officials found to be responsible for the mass arrests should be punished regardless of their "rank or station," the complaint insists, and demands that "definitive pronouncements be made in the form of instructions for future conduct to the police" to prevent a recurrence of the mass arrests. The complaint points out that no warrants were used in the mass arrests and no formal charge filed against any of the persons arrested.

Political Club Active

The 13th division Republican Club of the 20th Ward, in whose territory the clash occurred, met last Friday evening and after discussing the incident, decided to write Director of Public Safety Malone protesting Clark's failure to accord his prisoner proper protection.

A Colored Judge

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.
**White Lad Cut,
Colored Youth
Beaten By Mob**

Fracas Follows Auto Crash In South Philly Section

JAN 2 1941

A tense situation has resulted from the Christmas Day race riot at 25th and Christian streets in which a white lad was seriously stabbed, and his assailant brutally beaten while in custody of detective John Clark, of 905 south 25th street.

As a result the neighborhood has more police protection now than it has had for many months.

The trouble arose when two cars collided at 26th and Christian streets. An argument ensued between the occupants, and a bystander, John Logue 18, of Webster street near 25th "butted in." In the word battle which ensued, Logue was stabbed by Lucas Upchurch, 33, of Darien street near Pine.

Upchurch, chased by an irate mob, found shelter in a grocery store on Christian street near 25th, where he remained until arrested by the detective, who left his Christmas dinner to go to the scene of the battle.

Clark took his prisoner to a police call box across the street, and while waiting for the patrol wagon, Upchurch was beaten by several men in the mob.

According to James Smith, 2048 Dickinson street, who was visiting his parents at 2435 Christian street, Clark made no attempt to keep his charge from being beaten, although he had his gun with him.

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.
**Judge
"Didn't See It"**

A man was shot before the eyes of Magistrate during a hearing Saturday and the "Judge didn't see it."

The man, James Guinn, 35, 1126 Sheridan street, was wounded during an eviction proceeding against his wife, Janes, by Constable John Capetola. It was the second hearing during the week in which the actions of a constable were causes for violent court proceedings.

The hearing was before Magistrate Angelo Panetta in his Federal street court.

"Didn't See It"
The commotion began and ended so quickly that Mr. Panetta told newsmen "I did not see it."

At the hearing involving Guinn's wife, 40, accused of holding noisy parties, the husband engaged in an argument with the magistrate who ordered him put out of the court after his continued interruptions. Salvatore DiNapoli, a constable, proceeded to carry out the orders and a scuffle ensued.

Spectator Enters

While they were flailing on the floor John Capetola, a constable on Panetta's staff, went to the aid of the embattled officer with his blackjack. Here it was that Henry Beard, a spectator, interfered.

According to detectives, Capetola then drew his gun to scare Guinn and three shots were fired accidentally. About a dozen witnesses and office attaches made for the nearest objects which might afford protection. Shot in the leg, Guinn gave up and Beard fled from the office with the constables blackjack but was caught after a short chase and booked on a charge of disorderly conduct.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.
**Act to Save Life
Of Pittsburgh
Negro Youth**

Seek Clemency on New Slaying Evidence for Willie Fox

(Special to the Daily Worker)

PITTSBURGH, Nov. 21.—Last minute efforts to save the life of Willie Jones, young Negro scheduled to be executed early next Monday—on a murder charge, are being centered around appeals for clemency to Governor Arthur H. James. **NOV 22 1941**

Jones was arrested last spring on the charge of murdering Frank Ackerman, McKeesport packing house foreman. The Negro boy repudiated a forced confession obtained by county detectives. Subsequently he was identified as the murderer by a woman witness who was shown Jones handcuffed to two detectives with no other Negroes in the room. **NOV 22 1941**

New evidence by ballistic experts, which showed that the murder was not committed with the gun which the State claimed to belong to Jones, was presented to the State Pardon Board earlier this week by the Willie Jones Defense Committee but proved unavailing since two hours after the Board had examined the evidence, word came that the State Supreme Court had denied Jones a new trial and refused to order commutation of the death sentence. **NOV 22 1941**

The Willie Jones Defense Committee, with headquarters here, has urged sending of messages to Governor James in Harrisburg urging that he take steps to spare the Negro youth's life.

15-1941

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Four Murder Warrants Seen In Prison Death

Conditions in Dade Camp Worse Than Pictured, Solicitor Says.

Following an investigation of conditions at the Rising Fawn convict camp, in Dade county, where a Negro suffocated last week in a sweatbox, Solicitor General J. H. Paschall, of the Cherokee circuit, stated last night he will probably order four murder warrants sworn out against employees of the camp.

"Conditions there were even worse than the newspaper accounts described," the solicitor general said last night in discussing his investigation.

"At the camp I was told about the slaying of Ossie Moore, a white prisoner, serving time for a minor crime, whose body was riddled with buckshot by a number of guards. To me it looks like cold-blooded murder."

The solicitor general said that ex-Warden C. A. Jacobson, who told a coroner's jury last week that he ordered 22 Negro convicts confined in a small sweatbox, with only a small chimney flue to ventilate the room, had left the camp. His home is near Monticello.

One Negro convict was found dying in the sweatbox when it was opened hours later, and several others were removed in an unconscious condition, the coroner's jury was told.

All evidence regarding mistreatment of prisoners at the Rising Fawn camp will be presented to the Dade county grand jury on September 15, Paschall said.

The body of Flam Bell, Negro prisoner who died at the Sparta State Highway camp, will be exhumed today and a coroner's inquest held to determine whether he was whipped to death by camp guards, Judge Vivian L. Stanley, member of the State Prison and Parole Commission, said yesterday.

AUG 15 1941
Other suspensions asked.

Pending this investigation Judge Stanley said no action would be taken on the recommendation of the legislative penitentiary committee that Warden N. A. Compton, Guard Boss Alvin Johnson and Dr. E. H. Hutchens, camp physician, be suspended.

Coroner H. A. Berry, of Hancock county, reported the inquest would get under way at 11 o'clock this morning.

A delegation, consisting of Compton, Dr. Hutchens, Deputy Warden Ed Clements, Representative Marvin Moate and other officials and citizens of Hancock county appeared before the Prison and Parole Commission yesterday afternoon to protest the findings of the legislative committee who visited the camp to investigate the Negro's death.

Whipping Evidence Reported. In its report, the committee said it found "strong evidence that Flam Bell came to his death by mighty good wardens because I severe whipping by a person known as Boss Alvin Johnson."

Warden Compton charged that the investigating committee got their information from "some of the worst prisoners we've got."

"If I have to have the endorsement of such prisoners as that rather than the guards and some of the best people in Hancock county, then I want to be fired," he asserted.

Representative Moate, who said he was not invited to accompany the legislative committee on its visit to the camp, termed the committee's report "outrageous." He and charged members of the committee talked to the prisoners "behind closed doors."

AUG 15 1941
Sunstroke Blamed

Dr. Hutchens told the commission he would like to know what the charges against him were and pointed out he had always tried to give the prisoners the best possible medical treatment. He clung to his theory that the Negro died of sunstroke.

Among others who testified in Compton's and Hutchens' behalf were T. W. Brantley, Hancock county commissioner; J. H. Burgamy, who said his land adjoined the prison camp; C. C. Hill, merchant who said he sold supplies to the camp; Sheriff Ralph Baird, R. J. Kerr, minister, and John Dickenson, merchant.

All contended they had never heard of any whippings or brutality at the camp.

Warden Compton, who testified that he was truthful and would not tell a lie to save himself or

POLICE BRUTALITY

The death of one of twenty-two Negro convicts locked for twelve hours in a tiny building brought official blame to a warden today and spurred new inquiry into Georgia's much-investigated penal system.

W. A. Tidwell, Dade County Coroner, said an investigation by the jury decided the Negro, Lewis Hardman previous had granted Gordon, "came to his death due to cruel and inhuman treatment in one a parole.

"These boys are twins and when they were about 16 years old they helped kill a Negro along with another white man who was older than they were," the Governor said.

The coroner said the warden, C. A. Jacobson, told the jury that the Negroes were confined in a 7 by 7½ foot cell after they staged a sit-down strike and advanced on

them escaped while serving him and a guard, armed with rocks.

No charges have been filed against the warden, Talmadge while he was running for governor in 1932. When I was elected, my first official act was to pardon that boy. That was Eddie."

Fred Goble is warden of the Coffee county highway camp, while Ed Goble is warden of the Laurens county state highway camp. Both were appointed since the Governor came into office in January.

Early Report Requested. A disturbance preceded the mass punishment, Coroner Tidwell said, and "three of the prisoners were shot and wounded and the remaining twenty-two of the original twenty-five were crowded into the small building Tuesday at 11 A. M. and held there until 11 P. M. that night."

AUG 15 1941
Daily World

Atlanta, Georgia

Prison Doctor Fired Following Convict's Death

Failed to Give Injured Prisoner Proper Treatment

RALEIGH, N. C.—(A N P)—A physician for Forsyth Country Prison camp, Dr. E. H. Spainhour, was summarily dismissed from the state prison service Saturday because he failed to give adequate care to a Negro convict who died following an injury received in the camp.

John D. Rockfellow, 43, of Charlotte, a prisoner serving five years for liquor violation, was injured when he fell from a truck while working on a road gang along the highway. He was taken to the Forsyth prison camp where Dr. Spainhour happened to be.

Spainhour examined Rockfellow enough to discover that he had a broken leg. He did not fashion a splint for the prisoner's leg nor give him an anesthetic, but told the prison attaches to put Rockfellow on a mattress in a prison cage and take him to Central Prison hospital here. Rockfellow died 20 minutes after reaching the hospital. Post-mortem showed internal injuries.

State Prison Director Oscar Pitts told Dr. Spainhour immediately he had investigated the case, talking to the attendants who brought the man to the hospital and told the prison physician he was no longer needed by the State of North Carolina prison department.

Commercial Appeal
Memphis, Tennessee

CRUELTY IN GEORGIA PRISON IS REPORTED

AUG 25 1941
Statewide Investigation Follows Death Of Negroes

ATLANTA, Aug. 24.—(AP)—Georgia's periodically-probed penal system is under an official inquiry again, this one touched off by the sudden deaths of two convicts.

After investigating the deaths of young negro prisoners in Dade and Hancock County camps and reported brutal and inhuman treatment there, the legislature's Penitentiary Committee expanded its probe to sweep the state.

The latest death was that of Lewis Gordon, 25, who was jammed with 21 other negroes into a seven by seven foot windowless isolation cell in mid-August heat and kept there for 12 hours. While Gordon was dying of suffocation, his cell mates shouted and prayed for release, a coroner's inquest developed.

The coroner's jury blamed the death on Warden C. A. Jacobson of the Rising Fawn State Highway Camp in mountainous Dade County. Promptly, the State Prison Commission fired Jacobson. No criminal charges have been filed against the warden, who told the jury the negroes were confined in the tiny, thick-walled cell after they staged a sitdown strike.

The death of another negro, Flam Bell, was caused by a severe beating inflicted by a Hancock County camp boss, the legislators reported. Suspension of this boss, and of the camp warden and physician, and a coroner's inquest into the negroes death were recommended.

New York Times
New York, N. Y.

GEORGIA CONVICT DIES; CAMP WARDEN BLAMED

AUG 15 1941
One of 22 Negroes Locked in
Tiny Space SICK

TRENTON, Ga. Aug. 14 (P)

Abolition of Sweat Box, Return Of Stocks in Camps Demanded

MIC 16 1941

Gainesville Man Named Warden of Camp Where Man Died.

By LUKE GREENE.

A return to stocks in Georgia prison camps and abolition of sweat boxes as a means of punishment for prisoners was recommended yesterday by one member of the state prison and parole commission as the legislative investigating committee filed a scathing formal report in which it criticized conditions at the Rising Fawn and Sparta camps and called for a thorough grand jury investigation into the deaths of two prisoners at the Dade county camp.

Meanwhile, two of Georgia's most notorious escape artists, Forrest Turner and S. L. (Slim) Scarborough, were still at large and the manhunt was intensified with posses and bloodhounds. Frank Long, one of the seven who escaped from the Dallas camp Thursday, returned voluntarily yesterday.

Other developments which pointed to a clean-up of prison camps in Georgia follow:

1. Appointment of Hubert Smith, 36, of Gainesville, as warden of the Rising Fawn camp to succeed C. A. Jacobson, who was fired by the Prison and Parole Commission. Well known as the first warden at Georgia's "Little Alcatraz" at Dallas, Smith was given strict orders to "straighten things out" at the Rising Fawn camp.

2. Announcement by Solicitor J. H. Paschall, of the Cherokee circuit, that "if reports are true he would go to Dade county Monday and ask Sheriff G. C. Tatum to arrest Jacobson on a murder charge."

3. Recommendation by the legislative committee that two officials of the Sparta camp be suspended and that another be temporarily suspended in connection with the death of a Negro, Flam Bell, who allegedly was severely whipped.

4. Announcement by Royal K. Mann, of the Prison and Parole Commission, that he would go to

Dallas today to investigate the se- said, were afraid to talk through fear of being punished.

Mann said the Prison and Parole Commission probably would meet Monday to decide whether sweat boxes would be abolished and indicated there would be another shake-up in prison personnel at some of the camps.

"I am heartily in favor of doing away with sweat boxes," Mann asserted. "I believe that some form of punishment, such as depriving the prisoners of such special privileges as getting mail and mingling with the other pris-

oners, would be sufficient for 90 per cent of them. I think prob-

ably the best punishment for the other 10 per cent would be to place them in stocks."

Attention was centered on the inhumanity of sweat boxes when a Negro, Lewis Gordon, died at the Rising Fawn camp after Warden Jacobson placed 22 Negroes in solitary confinement for eight hours after they participated in a mutiny. Three others were shot during the strike.

Stocks were last used about 1936, Mann said. He pointed out that sweat boxes could never be termed humane because they either were too hot in the summer or too cold in the winter.

Representative H. B. Smith, of Winder, a member of the House Penitentiary Committee and brother of the new warden at Rising Fawn, agreed with Mann that stocks would be better than the present method of punishment. Representative Smith has had considerable experience as a warden.

Senator Hiles Hamilton and Representative Mack Hicks, Floyd county members of the legislative Prison Committees, yesterday called on the Governor and the Prison Commission to abolish sweat boxes immediately.

Conditions Found Bad.

Members of the house and senate investigating committees termed conditions at the Dade county camp "in a very bad state." They said they had found several prisoners who had been "severely beaten" and that others had been kept in a sweat box "beyond the length of time that we think would be humane treatment to anyone."

They quoted Dr. S. B. Kitchens, doctor assigned to the camp, as saying the prisoners were "overworked or underfed."

A number of the prisoners, they

said, were afraid to talk through fear of being punished.

In concluding their report on this case, the committee recommended that the Dade county grand jury investigate the deaths of Gordon and Aryie Moore.

As to the Sparta camp in Hancock county, the committee members said that "from evidence taken from numerous prisoners in the Sparta camp, we find strong evidence that Flam Bell came to his death by severe whipping by a person known as Boss Alvin Johnson."

The legislators recommended the immediate suspension of Johnson and Dr. E. H. Hutchings, camp physician, as well as other camp officials "connected with this brutal beating." They recommended the temporary suspension of Warden N. A. Compton until the matter could be cleared up.

The committee reported it had investigated the death of A. T. Jean, alias "Pee Wee" Burns, at Tattnall and found the report of the coroner's jury to be true that Burns came to his death in a brawl after he and other prisoners had seized and drunk a mixture of grain and rubbing alcohol."

They added conditions were excellent at Tattnall.

Experienced in Work.

In appointing Smith to take charge of the camp at Rising Fawn, commission officials pointed out that he recently had been connected with the Harris county highway camp and had been a warden for five years. Previously he was connected with the State Highway Department as a shovel operator.

As the new warden at Rising Fawn, Smith will take charge of a camp sprawled on the side of

Lookout Mountain between Lafayette and Trenton. Its squat buildings are situated almost on the edge of the new Ed Rivers highway, which winds its way through the picturesque mountain country, forming the only direct connection between Dade county and the rest of Georgia.

Few citizens of Georgia know how the prisoners live inside one of these camps. The first notice of these camps. The first notice

to be humane treatment to anyone."

the road which says:

"Keep out, by order of the State Highway Board."

To former Warden C. A. Jacob-

son that sign was to be taken literally. When newspapermen and photographers passed through the camp he promptly ordered them out. But when two members of the State Prison and Parole Commission arrived it was a different story.

After the hearing at which Jacobson admitted he crammed 22 Negro prisoners into a single sweat box seven and one-half feet square and that one died a few hours after they were removed, Chairman Clem Rainey and Commissioner Royal K. Mann went through the camp.

Barracks Inspected.

They stopped first in the barracks where the whites are fenced in on one side and the Negroes on another. There was a foul odor in the place. The showers and commodes were situated out in the middle of the barracks with no protecting walls around them. The floor around them was damp.

The prisoners sat or sprawled on dirty, crumpled beds. Three Negro prisoners lay with their legs bandaged, the victims of shots fired by former Warden Jacobson and Foreman Roy M. White during a mutiny of approximately 25 prisoners.

Commissioner Mann went inside the Negro quarters, locked the door behind him. He went up to several prisoners and asked them what was the trouble.

Convicts' Story.

He lifted up the dingy covers and looked at the wounds of one Negro. Mann asked him why he went on a strike. The Negro said the guards were working him too hard.

Mann asked if the prisoners go plenty to eat. Back of him one Negro sprang up in his bed like a "jack-in-the-box," and cried, "No, sir, boss, I don't get enough to eat."

Back of the barracks are two little houses facing each other which look like undersized chicken houses. These are the dungeons or sweat boxes, one for the whites and one for the Negroes.

The outside walls of these "sweat boxes" are covered with black tar paper. Each house has a small door which is closed when the prisoners are locked, making the inside dark. There are only two air vents, each about four by six inches which open into something that resembles a chimney.

Dimensions of the house, according to Prison Inspector Claude Mayne, are seven and one-half feet by seven and one-half feet. The height is six feet by 10 inches at the walls.

It was into one of the houses that 22 Negroes were packed and

kept for eight hours. Even with the door open and only one person inside it is difficult to breathe.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Daily Times
August 20, 1941

GEORGIA CHAIN GANGS

The death of 25-year-old Lewis Gordon, a Negro who was serving a life sentence, in a "sweat box" at the Georgia chain gang camp near Rising Fawn, has had repercussions throughout Georgia. Reports that another Negro prisoner in a camp at Sparta, Georgia, was beaten to death with a rubber hose are being investigated, and Governor Eugene Talmadge has instructed the Legislative Penitentiary Committee of the two houses of the General Assembly to "complete an investigation of all prison camps as soon as possible."

The prisoners sat or sprawled on dirty, crumpled beds. Three Negro prisoners lay with their legs bandaged, the victims of shots fired by former Warden Jacobson and Foreman Roy M. White during a mutiny of approximately 25 prisoners.

Unless it is former Governor Ed Rivers, no other Georgia Executive has turned out of the prisons and jails by pardon and parole more convicted murderers and convicted felons than has Mr. Talmadge. His attitude toward any recommendation made by legislative investigators will be conditioned by the view

he expresses now in defending his appointment as wardens of convict camps two convicted murderers whom he pardoned. Governor Talmadge says of Ed Goble and Fred Goble, who "helped a deputy sheriff kill a Negro in Elijah when they were fifteen or sixteen years old," that both are "good boys." Several years after he pardoned the men and soon after becoming Governor for the third time about a year ago, Mr. Talmadge appointed the Gobles, who are twin brothers, as prison camp wardens. Defending their appointment, Governor Talmadge asserted on Monday that, "if you want to get somebody who knows how to treat prisoners why not get somebody who has been a prisoner himself and knows how they ought to be treated?"

As a character witness for two

convicted murderers, Governor Talmadge may have sound reasons for their lives in prison are persons substantially improved so long as a

sub-convict who will agree State Government in the super- is in office. It is debatable whether the chain gang system in

15-1941

Southern News
Almanac
Birmingham, Ala.

~~Union Protests Against Beating Of Wife Of Negro Striker By Shelby Deputy~~

A strong protest was issued Friday from the Bessemer office of International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers against brutal methods practiced by a Shelby County sheriff's deputy upon the wife of a Negro striker at the plant of Superior Lime Company, Pelham. The protest was in the form of a letter activities of this nature in that area, and also hope that you will national representative of the union, see that these mistakes do not re- and was addressed to Sheriff Bond cur." 31 1941

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

~~Slaying Arouses Citizens~~

~~Unarmed Man Shot to Death By Two Officers~~

Kansas City Negro citizens are aroused as they have seldom been before over the slaying of Harrison J. Ware, 27, by police officers Saturday night, July 26, during a raid of the Autumn Leaf Club, 1704 East Twelfth street. AUG 1 1941

Ware was unarmed.

The two policemen, both of whom shot Ware, are English LeBaugh and Dewey Ellis, both members of the police vice squad. LeBaugh is one of the officers involved last year in the beating of Attorney James D. Pouncey following a minor traffic accident. AUG 3 1941

Protests against the unnecessary and wanton slaying of Ware are being taken to Governor Frank C. Donnell as Chief L. B. Reed, head of the state-controlled police department, has absolved the two police officers of all blame in the very serious view of any further

~~POLICE BRUTALITY~~

~~Pushed Citizen Around~~

Eye-witnesses say that Officers LeBaugh and Ellis entered the club and began immediately to push, slap and kick every Negro they saw. LeBaugh, the witness said, waved his revolver and shouted, "Who thinks they are lucky to-night?" AUG 3 1941

Ware asked the officers to stop pushing and shoving his friends around, according to a witness's statement. LeBaugh began to scuffle with Ware and the two fell to the floor. While they fought, a witness said LeBaugh called to Officer Ellis, "Why don't you shoot him?" AUG 3 1941

Ellis answered, "I can't shoot— you're in the way." AUG 3 1941

A few minutes later, both Ellis and LeBaugh had shot Ware, who had done no more than protest insults and rough treatment from officers of the public trust. AUG 3 1941

~~Officers Not Blamed~~

After an investigation, Chief Reed announced that the police officers were not to blame in the shooting, that they shot Ware in self-defense. He said he found that Ware beat both officers over the head with a billiard ball and then reached for LeBaugh's revolver which had fallen to the floor during the scuffle. The officers shot "in self-defense," the police chief found. AUG 3 1941

Witnesses, however, told a different story—a story of oppression and brutality on the part of officers who shot and killed a man guilty of no crime except the possible misdemeanor of frequenting a club where it was suspected that a gambling game was in progress. AUG 3 1941

Governor Donnell and the board of police commissioners will be asked to make an immediate and thorough investigation and to discharge the police officers for excessively abusive conduct. AUG 3 1941

Chicago Defender

Chicago, Illinois

~~BOYS ACCUSE TWO OFFICERS OF BRUTALITY~~

Youths Report Attack To Civil Liberties Committee

D
The Plaindealer
Kansas City, Kan.

~~POLICE BRUTALITY~~

The Kansas City, Missouri police department should be penalized for conducting open season of brutality on Negroes just because they are black and helpless. The governor of Missouri should act at once to remedy the unconstitutional and un-American practices of white police officers on Negroes who live in that city and those who must pass through there AUG 8 1941 and those who visit from nearby cities and towns. AUG 8 1941

A few years ago, a nationally circulated magazine published a series of articles under the caption "Thunder Over Kansas City". Those articles helped to smash what was termed a vicious political machine that brought a curse upon the city. If that magazine would return and publish the facts about police brutality shown Negroes, the writer would perhaps select for a title "Hell Over Kansas City" in stead of "Thunder". AUG 8 1941

May we advise our citizens on this side of the river to be careful when visiting Missouri, because all Negroes look alike to the present police department. Be careful! AUG 8 1941

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

~~Would Rather Die Than Go Back To 'Home'~~

Victim Tells Weird Stories Of Whippings

CHERAW, S. C.—(SNS)—Seventeen-year-old Dorothy Ringgold, arrested here last Saturday night on a telegraph request from the Delaware Industrial School for colored women, told chief of police AUG 2 1941 David AUG 2 1941 that she would rather die than be sent back to the reform school on the charge of violating conditions of her parole, granted at 18 months AUG 2 1941

confinement in the institution on a charge of truancy.

The girl told a weird story of the beastly whippings and mistreatment at the hands of officials in Delaware, the only state in which the whipping post is a legal institution. Attorney E. E. Hanna has been engaged by her family to fight extradition. Efforts to raise funds among local citizens have gotten underway to prevent her return to the state.

Following her release on parole, she said, she came to South Carolina to visit a sister who lives in Cheraw.

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Guard Denies Accusation Before Probers

Fugitive Surrenders Here; Doctor Gives Sunstroke Verdict.

By FRANK DRAKE.

Charges that a guard so severely whipped a Negro convict July 29 at the state prison camp at Sparta, Ga., that he died on the ground before they were made Wednesday before the State Prison and Parole Commission by a white convict, who asserted last night that he and another trusty escaped on that date because they had been forced to hold the Negro during the beating. The guard at a hearing denied the charge.

The white convict, Sanford Crider, 20, serving 4 to 20 years from Fulton county for burglary, surrendered three days later to Royal K. Mann, member of the State Prison and Parole Commission, through his attorney, Frank Bowens, he said last night at Fulton Tower, where he is held.

Dr. E. H. Hutchings, physician at the state prison camp in Han-

cock county, told The Constitution last night over long distance that he had diagnosed the cause of the Negro's death as "sun stroke," which he said he wrote into the death certificate.

Saw No Whip Marks.

The physician said, however, he had not examined the body for whip marks.

The Prison and Parole Commission held a secret hearing on Crider's charges Wednesday, with the accused guard, and the camp warden, Captain Neal Compton, and Crider among those present.

Captain Compton told The Constitution by phone that the guard had flatly denied Crider's charges that he had beaten the Negro, whose name was given by the warden as "Slam Bell."

"I investigated this when I first heard about it last Sunday and there isn't anything to it," Compton asserted.

He said Crider and the guard were put under oath at the prison commission ~~AUG 8 1941~~, and that he thought the testimony of all witnesses was taken down by a stenographer.

Members of the prison commission could not be reached last night.

Crider charged that he himself had been beaten four times in the 14 months he had been at the Sparta camp, and that he had seen 100 or more men whipped with sticks or rubber hose in that time.

Describes Beating.

"On Tuesday, July 29, at about 11 o'clock in the morning, we were working on the road," Crider told a Constitution reporter last night at the tower.

"The guard ordered me and Irvin Gibbs, who was a trusty like me, to hold the Negro. Then he hit him 50 or 75 times with a rubber water hose doubled up. The Negro fell down and the guard told him to get up. The Negro, we called him "Wild Cat," got up and walked a few steps and then fell down.

"They carried him into the camp and when I got there a little later with the truck I saw him dead. Dr. Hutchings came and said he was dead."

Gibbs and me decided ~~AUG 8 1941~~ to leave and we took the truck out on the road and left it. Then we went into the woods and changed from our stripes to overalls we brought with us from camps. We went

together until we got to near Eatonton, and he went on toward Augusta and I hitch-hiked to Atlanta. I got here Thursday and spent Thursday night at home. Friday morning I called my lawyer and surrendered to Mr. Mann."

Other Whippings.

Crider said three Negroes and a white convict were whipped the same morning that the Negro died.

Dr. Hutchings said he came to the camp about 11:30 o'clock in the morning in answer to a call and found the Negro, "Slam Bell," dead.

He diagnosed the cause of death as sunstroke, he said, because the body was very hot and rigor mortis set in quickly.

"The muscles had begun to stiffen even by the time I got there," he said. He asserted such quick rigor mortis, coupled with high body heat, is the sign of death by sunstroke.

"I examined him to see if he had hurt himself in falling but saw no marks," Dr. Hutchings declared. "If he had been whipped to death, I think I would have known it, but I did not examine the body for whip marks."

Crider asserted that the guard whipped the Negro about the back and hips.

Dr. Hutchings said he had "looked the body over" but had not seen anything that looked like welts or bruises. He said he worked over the man 30 minutes trying to bring back a spark of life.

The physician said the Negro is buried in one of the Negro cemeteries of Sparta but he didn't know which one.

Tried to Find Family.

"They tried all day and the next morning to locate some member of the Negro's family but could not," Dr. Hutchings said. "You don't think they would have tried to find his people if the Negro had been beaten to death, do you?"

Captain Compton said Captain Smith, a prison investigator, had inspected the Sparta camp ~~AUG 8 1941~~ Sunday while he was away during the afternoon.

Captain Smith, former head of the state prison at Milledgeville, was present at the hearing before the Prison and Parole Commission Wednesday, Compton declared. He said "Smith didn't say much."

Compton said that he heard Crider testify at the hearing about the alleged whipping of the Negro, but that he did not believe the Negro was whipped.

"The Negro had just been sent us about a week or ten days before and he was a sorry sort of Negro, didn't want to work very hard, but so far as I know he wasn't whipped," said the warden.

fro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Boy, 15, Says Cops Beat Him

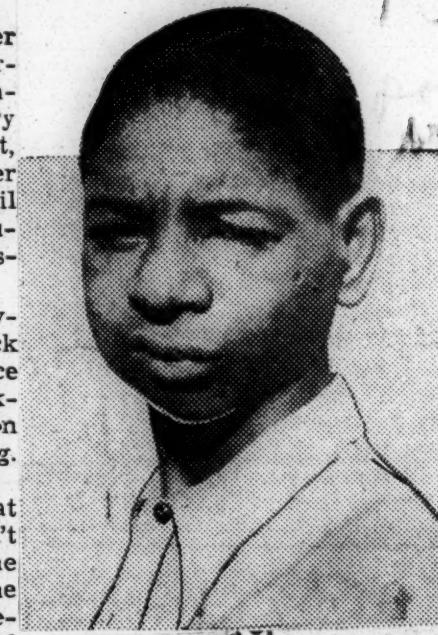
BALTIMORE

On Wednesday, five days after a 15-year-old girl was kept overnight in a prison cell in North-Western police station, Mrs. Mary Duffie of 937 Fayette Street, complained to the AFRO that her son, John, 15, shop center pupil of School No. 131, had been brutally beaten by ~~a~~ Western district policeman.

According to the mother, several officers slapped and struck because he refused to admit taking \$7 from a stall in a Poppleton Street carnival, Tuesday evening.

Beaten in Basement

The boy told the AFRO that the officer, whose name he didn't know, questioned him about the theft and, when he denied the charge, took him into the basement of the St. Peters Parochial School, Poppleton Street south of Baltimore, for further questioning.



Officer Dominic T. Monticello, whose name appears on the police dockets as the officer in the case, is said to have hit Duffie with his fist. It was said that he did push Duffie back down in the chair when the latter reportedly jumped up in an effort to strike the officer.

There, said young Duffie, the officer slapped him several times with his open hand and then struck him with his fist. When the boy, accompanied by his mother, appeared at the AFRO office the next afternoon, approximately fifteen hours later, his face, his lips and around his eyes were still swollen.

The boy said that when the officer had finished with him he made him (Duffie) cover his face with his hat as he was led through a side door of the building to a waiting radio car and taken to the Western police station where he was slated for a juvenile hearing scheduled for this Tuesday morning at 9:30.

Investigation Ordered

Mrs. Duffie told the AFRO that, when she learned of the incident, she went to the school building immediately but was denied admission. She was allowed to take her son home later, however.

Captain Nicholas Gatch, commanding officer of the Western district, told the AFRO that he has ordered a complete investigation of the incident and will forward the report to the chief inspector's office.

15-1941

Atlanta, Ga Constitution
August 20, 1941

ONE WORD MORE

By RALPH McGILL.

" HIDING" THE NEWS When newspapermen accompanied the prison committee on its investigation of the sweat-box death of a Negro prisoner at Rising Fawn, a relative of one of the work-camp guards demanded of one of the newspapermen present "why the newspapers printed such terrible things as the prison camp horror."

The relative was not at all concerned that it had happened. The prisoner would have been buried and nothing more said or done. The sweat box would have gone on receiving its prisoners to be tortured as were the 22 jammed into its small space. All would have been well, according to the relative. All that had to be done was for no one to say anything about it. Just that.

Yesterday the solicitor general, investigating the camp, asserts that conditions were even more terrible than reported by the newspapers.

Yet there are those who seriously insist this sort of thing should not be exposed; that it should be allowed to fester; that prisoners should be killed and buried with no notice of how or why.

Now and then there seems to be more than usual the number of such persons who think that newspapers should not present the news and vigorously comment on this news and its implications.

That sort of thing happened in Italy first, and then in Germany. There they developed the idea that the individual didn't mean anything at all. The whole thing was "the state" and the welfare of those who ran it. The individual was "nothing." Therefore, newspapers were prohibited, and still are prohibited, from printing news which disturbed those who ran "the state."

It was not for nothing the founding fathers, led by Thomas Jefferson, wrote into the Constitution the guarantee of a free press. That freedom is guaranteed to the people. The people are guaranteed a free press. They have a right to know that prison conditions are good or bad; that prisoners are tortured or that they are well treated; that they are fed or starved.

Newspapers don't enjoy publishing such news. It is not good advertising for the state. It does not make people want to come to Georgia. Yet, is there a thoughtful person who is so unmoved by sweat-box deaths as to say they should be hidden and that any suffering voices in prison should not be heard?

THE WORK CAMPS A study of our prison system might discover for those in charge that a very real reform would work for their own benefit and, incidentally, for the welfare of the state.

Certainly there should be more people interested in making it impossible and unnecessary for us to have brutality and brutes in the prison system, than there are those who think it all right to have brutality and brutes so long as nothing is said about them.

What we have in Georgia, of course, is the old chain gang, or work camp, system. We took off the chains. The rest of the system remains.

Of the approximate 8,000 prisoners, all but an approximate 1,000 are confined in work camps, county or highway.

There are no standards for wardens to follow. There are inequalities and inconsistencies in the standards.

We still look upon the man convicted and sentenced solely as another laborer and never in the slightest do we regard him as a person who may be restored to citizenship and a useful life. In the highway camps he is worked harder than in county camps. He often is ill-fed and he almost inevitably goes from work to bed and from bed to work. Nothing is done to rehabilitate him.

Our prison system remains a lease system in which the state sends law violators to the counties and then, in effect, hires back the labor of these men through so-called highway contracts. The Highway Department thereby pays the counties for the work which the convicts, in the keeping of the counties, perform on state road

POLICE BRUTALITY

work.

In the past administration, the state was unable to pay for some of the convict work and some counties turned back convicts to the state. The state substituted its own camps.

EXPENSIVE WORK A government interested in economy might consider the expense feature.

In recent years the county contracts reached the figure of \$3,000,000 or more. The sum has been paid under highway contracts with counties. It was on the basis of \$1 per day per prisoner in each county camp. The prisoner, in return, was to move four cubic yards of dirt or a bit more than one cubic yard of rock. Contractors move dirt for about 10 cents per yard. It has been moved for as little as 5 cents per yard. Rock has been moved for as little as 40 cents per yard. It undoubtedly can be done with much less cost by private labor. Prison highway labor is the most expensive we can have.

It is a problem. Admittedly many of the prisoners are tough. There has never been any rehabilitation efforts. Admittedly the guards and wardens rarely, if at all, have had training in prison methods beyond that which the state always has had. They know the old chain gang methods.

Admittedly our system isn't a deterrent. We have more than the average number in prison camps as compared with other states.

It is a problem. But the answer cannot be hiding the facts or refusing to let the people know them.

Kansas City, Mo.

Lear B. Reed Quits in Midst of Investigation Ordered by Gov. Donnell

Says Probe Brought on by Negroes Had No Effect, But Facts in Case Show Pressure Caused Resignation

The campaign Negro citizens have been waging against police brutality in Kansas City was climaxed early Saturday morning, August 30, when Lear B. Reed, chief of police, resigned in the midst of an investigation ordered by Governor Forrest C. Donnell.

The probe was ordered by the Missouri governor following a conference with Negro citizens in his letter, the police board went into office at the capitol in Jefferson City on August 22. Acting upon complaints made to him by a delegation of 23 Kansas City Negroes,

Governor Donnell wrote a letter to the Kansas City board of police commissioners ordering a complete report on the acts of brutality cited by the Negro citizens and asking for an explanation of a drastic reduction in Negro personnel on the police force.

STUDY HOW TO ANSWER

the current investigation ordered by the governor had nothing to do with his action, there is no doubt in anybody's mind but that the chief resigned under pressure brought on by Negroes whom members of his department have oppressed and mistreated ever since he took office two years ago.

MAKES RASH STATEMENT

Negro citizens who have been leading the fight for better relations between Negroes and the police take the position that if Chief Reed really had been planning to resign he would have delayed that action until things cooled off and would not have gone out when the pressure was on.

Another indication that Chief Reed had not planned to resign until Negroes began their active campaign against tactics used by his police officers was given Friday in a statement the chief made upon returning to the city from his vacation.

"If I cannot enforce the law in the colored belt," the chief exclaimed when he learned of the governor's investigation, "then I won't be chief of police."

SEPT. 1941 COMMENDS OFFICERS

He made this statement in a meeting of the commanding officers of the force whom he commended or having "done a good job." He urged the officers not to "let a little criticism get you down" and added, "You can't please everybody. No class is criticized as frequently, as unjustly and as unfairly as policemen. There always is an element against you. Jesus didn't please everybody, so I know a policeman can't."

Chief Reed went on to say that he thought the Negro citizens had been misled.

Nowhere in his statement did he indicate that he was planning or was about to resign.

Later that night, however, when he was called before the commissioners he resigned and within a few minutes, his successor, Captain Harold Anderson had been named. The commissioners met in "executive session" with the press barred so the proceedings were not made public.

GOVERNOR IN EARNEST

The opinion current throughout the city is that the complaints made by Negro citizens are not to be passed off lightly by the governor, who is said to be aroused by the charges made against the

police department and is anxious to get the situation corrected.

Negro citizens who have made the same complaints to the police commissioners that they made to the governor Friday are happy that some action is about to be taken. Their complaints to the commissioners and to Chief Reed produced no results.

That the police board is beginning to recognize that Chief Reed has been operating too much of a one-man department was evidenced last Saturday when the police commissioners met and decided to take steps to modify the chief's complete domination of the department.

SEPT 5 1941 KEARNEY UNDER FIRE

An inquiry was ordered into the operation of the police record department presided over by Thomas F. Kearney who made the absurd statement recently that there are 6,000 Negro Communists in Jackson county.

The police board employed Arthur Young and company to make a personnel audit in an effort to determine why 21 employees are needed in Mr. Kearney's department when there were only six in the former regime. The audit is aimed to determine whether the record division is being operated efficiently. Kearney is one of Chief Reed's appointees.

The board also ordered Darrell H. Chiles, former director of personnel, now employed at the Lake City ordnance plant, to return two weeks' pay he received from the police department after he had begun work at the Lake City plant. A probe will be held to determine who ordered pay for Chiles after he had left the department.

CHILES FROM FLORIDA

Chiles is the man Chief Reed brought from Tampa, Fla., where as a police officer, he had a reputation of abuse to Negroes.

A queer turn in the police commissioners meeting Thursday afternoon came when the board instructed Secretary Cleary to get in touch with three Negro leaders, Carl R. Johnson, president of the N. A. A. C. P. branch, T. B. Watkins and the Rev. D. A. Holmes and ask them to submit an itemized report of the complaints presented to the governor.

This action was considered queer in the Negro community because the incidents of brutality and mistreatment were reported to the police commissioners as they occurred. Negro citizens are wondering why the police board does not already have a record of the complaints since following a hearing in 1940 they promised to give the complaints presented in written form their "immediate attention." Nothing ever came from the complaints.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Missouri Governor Responds To Police Brutality Protest

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Sept. 4—The vigorous campaign Negro citizens have been waging here against police brutality resulted this week in a personal investigation by Governor Forrest S. Donnell, the resignation of the chief of police and a general shakeup at police headquarters.

Chief of Police Lear B. Reed arrived, the police board has been meeting in "executive session" with the former F. B. I. agent from Georgia, resigned early Saturday morning, following a five-hour stormy session of the board of police commissioners which began Friday night and lasted into the wee hours of the morning. The board accepted it effective September 30.

REIGNED UNDER PRESSURE Although Chief Reed said that upon the governor was named by some time and that the current investigation ordered by the governor had nothing to do with his body's mind but that the chief re-signed under pressure brought on by Negroes whom members of his department have oppressed and mistreated ever since he took office two years ago.

The "fireworks" began Friday, August 22, when a delegation of 23 Negro citizens drove to the capital at Jefferson City, Mo., for a conference with Governor Donnell, the chief executive of the state being directly in charge of the police department since it went under state control in 1939.

CITES RECORD OF BEATINGS

The governor paid careful attention to the spokesmen for the committee as they related incident after incident of brutality, oppression and mistreatment on the part of Chief Reed's police officers. The principal spokesman, Carl R. Johnson, president of the Kansas City NAACP branch, told the governor how police officers have abused their authority by beating Negro men to make them confess to crimes they did not commit, notably during the three Greek letter conventions in Kansas City last December, and how the officers have carried on a vicious campaign of brutality in the Negro community.

A few days after the conference with the governor, Missouri's chief executive ordered the police board to send him an explanation of the charges brought against the department by the Negro citizens.

BOARD HOLDS SECRET SESSIONS

The governor asked the police board for a report on two counts: (1) abuse of Negroes by Kansas City police and (2) the reduction of Negro personnel on the force. The Negro delegation told the governor that the Negro officers on the force had been reduced from 30 to 10 during the Reed administration.

Telegraph

Macon, Georgia

Senators Doom Prison Sweat-Boxes, Laud Guards Who Served Pen Terms

Talmadge-Censored

Report Bans Picks

As Added Shackles

By The Associated Press

ATLANTA.—The senate penitentiary committee gave Georgia's penal system high praise Friday, but recommended that all state convict camps, the so-called sweat-boxes and the iron picks attached to prisoners' legs be abolished.

In a report released by Clem E. Rainey, chairman of the prison and parole commission, the senators also advocated segregation and classification of prisoners, more frequent paroles for certain types of convicts and retention of all prisoners until they are free of contagious diseases.

The senators themselves declined to make public the findings of their investigation since Governor Talmadge had instructed them to withhold their report from the press until it after it had been submitted to him and the prison and parole commission. He said he did this because publicity given an earlier committee report charging mistreatment of prisoners at "these two brothers are among

two state camps was likely to disrupt convicts and wardens.

Less than two weeks ago, the governor asserted that Georgia's much-criticized penal system was the best in the nation, one that other states would do well to emulate. He especially lauded the state penitentiary and said the convict camps where three recent deaths were investigated were an insignificant part of the whole.

A similar note was struck by the senators who concluded the report with this statement:

"We wish to commend the prison and parole commission for their efforts in putting Georgia's prisons on a higher plane. We especially commend his excellency, the governor, Eugene Talmadge, on his efforts in placing the state penal system as the best in the United States."

The committee also singled out for praise two camps wardens who were pardoned by Talmadge from life sentences for murder. These were identified in the report as Ed Göbel, warden of the Laurens county camp, and his twin-brother, Fred Göbel, warden of the Coffee county camp. "We believe," the senators said, that

Segregation Urged For Inmates; Would Hold Men Till Cured

He described both men as good citizens and defended their appointments by saying that men with prison records should be given a chance.

INSPECTED CAMPS

The senate committee said its report was based on an inspection of all 13 convict camps, the state penitentiary at Reidsville and a number of the 88 county convict camps. They added they expected to visit the rest of the county camps in the next few weeks.

With few exceptions, they said, they found the state camps in good condition, adding reports already had been made of the Rising Fawn camp in Dade county and the state camp in Hancock county. A coroner's jury decided that Lewis Gordon, a Negro life-

term, came to his death at the former camp last month as the result of inhumane treatment. Gordon died after being confined with 22 other prisoners in a small cell, often called a sweatbox, for several hours in punishment for what camp officials called a sit-down strike and a threat of violence to the guards. The camp warden, C. A. Jacobson, has been removed.

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POLICE BRUTALITY

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Baltimore Spurs Protests Over Police Whitewash

AUG 18 1941

(Special to the Daily Worker)

BALTIMORE, Aug. 17.—Protests against the whitewashing of the police officer who brutally killed young Lawrence Reed, 16 year-old Negro, two weeks ago, continue to pour into the office of the Maryland Association for Democratic Rights here.

Officers and members of the Union Baptists Church, including Rev. Baxter L. Matthews, have called upon Commissioner Stanton for an immediate investigation.

The Young Communist League of Baltimore has cooperated here with the Communist Party in several open air meetings, condemning the terroristic methods of local police urging immediate suspension of persons responsible for the Reed murder.

The Afro-American, national Negro newspaper, in a recent editorial called "Governor O'Conor Has Power to End Police Atrocities," called for letters and appeals to be sent daily to the Governor until assurance is received that a complete investigation will be made.

The Negro newspaper itself has been cited for contempt of court under Criminal Court Order of 1939, which forbids the printing of material in a criminal case which might be construed as having a tendency to prevent a fair trial or to embarrass or obstruct justice. The citation was based on the publication of a picture of the body of Reed after the autopsy, under the caption "Innocent Victim of Policeman's Bullets."

The Maryland Association for Democratic Rights in a petition to the Governor stated in part: "The Reed killing is not an unusual or isolated incident, but one of hundreds of cases of police brutality occurring every year. The disregard for the rights of the Negro people is no less than treason to democratic principles of freedom and equality."

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Philadelphia Cop Perils Crowd, Shoots Negro

AUG 18 1941

(Special to the Daily Worker)

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 17.—Another brutal attack on a Negro occurred here last week when patrolman Harry Gatta fired on Walter Dunbar who tried to protect a mentally-defective child from being beaten up by the policeman.

On his release from a three week's stay at a local hospital, Dunbar was immediately thrown into jail on trumped-up charges. Unable to pay the \$1,000 bail, the Negro worker is still behind bars.

The Committee for People's Rights is urging all progressives here to write to District Attorney Charles Kelly urging the immediate release of Dunbar and arrest of Gatta.

The Committee says that only a miracle prevented greater loss of

life when Gatta fired into the crowd where Dunbar was shielding the child.

AUG 18 1941

"This terrorism and brutality on the part of the local police must stop. Police are civil servants paid by taxpayers' money to protect the lives of citizens. We are fighting Hitlerism, yet the local police use the methods of Hitler's Gestapo," declared the Committee.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Increasing instances of brutality against Negro citizens in many large cities are arousing intense indignation among all groups of the population.

With the Negro people playing an ever more active part in progressive movements, reactionaries are deliberately encouraging a wave of violence against the Negro communities.

AUG 18 1941

This is being countered by the formation of many united front committees, in which Communists are giving active aid, for protest and for action to halt these outrages committed by a minority of reactionaries.

It is pointed out that the fight against Hitlerism abroad cannot be brought to a completely successful conclusion without united action against the "racial" terrorism fomented by reactionary groups against the Negro people.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Alabama Negro Shot, Dies Later in Hospital

AUG 18 1941

(Special to the Daily Worker)

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Aug. 17.—Another Negro was the victim of Gestapo methods here when Patrolman Brasell shot at Ocie Flowers, during a street corner fight. Flowers died here at Fraternal Hospital this week.

The brutal attack on the Negro by Brasell resulted when Flowers allegedly drew a knife on Patrolman Durden. The patrolmen had answered a call on the corner of Oak and Mobile Sts., where Willie Gates, Negro, had been hurt. While administering aid, Flowers allegedly started a rumpus and tried to knife one of the officers.

The police report that Brasell knocked Flowers to the ground and fired at him supposedly in self-defense.

Negro and white citizens here are indignant over the police department's attempt to whitewash the local patrolmen.

Facts About Police Brutality in Cordele

AS RELATED TO THE
KILLING OF ARTHUR
JOHNSON LAST MAY

Compiled And Sent

Out By The
SAVANNAH
Ass'n of Southern Women

For Prevention Of
Tribal Lynching

AUG 21 1941

The following is an objective statement regarding a case of police brutality and what might be classified as a "lynching," as gathered from several persons in Cordele, Georgia, and sent out by the Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching.

Arthur Johnson, a Negro living in Cordele owed Mr. Booth,

white, who ran a marble yard, \$7.00 which Mr. Booth had been unable to collect. On May 24, 1941, the police picked Johnson up and put him in jail. It is reported that Mr. Booth, summoned to come and beat up the Negro, sent word that he was busy and could not get down to the jail right away. However, about six o'clock that evening he came.

Then, according to the report, he and Mr. Tucker, Chief of Police took the Negro in the Chief's office and began to beat him. The Negro fought back and held them at bay for a few minutes, when Chief Tucker and Mr. Booth started toward him again, the Negro reached for a Coco-Cola bottle lying on the floor. Chief Tucker is then reported to have drawn his gun and shot the Negro seven times, the latter dying immediately.

The doctor who was summoned is said to have called a Negro undertaker to get the body of a man who had fallen out dead in jail. When the undertaker came for the body, he was told to have the Negro buried by the next morning at ten o'clock.

The family now has. The man's wife, for physician gets a "little food" from the Department of Public Welfare because of high blood pressure. The oldest daughter, fourteen, has been working in domestic service, bringing in all the cash income that the

Georgia Fascism Protested After Death Of 3 Negroes

Three deaths resulting from fascist-like brutality to Negro people by Georgia police and convict camp guards were revealed this week, coming only a short time after Governor Eugene Talmadge's attack upon free education and race harmony.

Public indignation over these deaths among all sections of Georgia people, white and Negro, has forced investigation by state authorities into the Georgia penal system.

In quick order, it was revealed that a convict had been beaten to death in a prison camp, that another had been smothered to death in a "sweat box" and news came out that Cordele, Ga., police had arrested a Negro man because of a \$7 debt and then killed him in the police station back in May.

So incensed has public opinion in Georgia become over the beating to death of Flam Bell, Negro prisoner, at the state convict camp in Hancock County, that authorities planned to disinter Bell's body for examination.

AUG 21 1941
A white man, Sanford Crider, escaped from the Georgia prison camp and made his way to Atlanta where he gave himself up to the Prison and Parole Commission so that he could tell of the brutal killing of Bell. Crider testified that on July 29 Bell died after being lashed 50 times with a hosepipe by a convict boss.

Crider, the white convict, was forced to hold Bell while they beat him to death, he testified before the commission. As soon as he could after that he escaped and gave himself up to the commission to tell of the brutal slaying.

"SWEAT-BOX" DEATH

Lewis Gordon, 40-year-old Negro prisoner at the Rising Fawn, Ga., prison camp, died in the "sweat-box" where he and 21 other Negro prisoners were confined by Warden C. A. Jacobsen. The box was a seven and one-half by seven and one-half foot shack covered with tar paper and had only one tiny airhole at the top for ventilation.

State Senator R. E. Cannon of Clayton who heads the legislative committee on the prison commission which investigated the death at Rising Fawn camp, said conditions there were very bad. Jacob-

sen, the warden, who admitted his responsibility for Gordon's death, said, "I see it was a mistake after it's over." He was dismissed by Cannon's committee, but no charges have been made against him.

SNYC MAKES DEMAND

The Southern Negro Youth Congress made known the killing of Arthur Johnson, Negro, in the office of the Chief of Police in Cordele, Ga., on May 24. The organization of this gruesome crime, the torture addressed a demand to Talmadge for an investigation with the findings to be made public, and further demanded that the guilty police officers be brought to trial and purging of the school faculties of the state of Georgia pay an indemnity to the victim's family.

The letter to Talmadge follows: "The streamlined lynching of Arthur Johnson in the office of the chief of police in Cordele, Ga., on May 24 has just become known to the public. Although local newspapermen have declared that Johnson's death was caused as a result of resisting arrest, authoritative reports have come to us stating that the findings made public within 30 days, that the guilty officers be picked up by the police because of a debt he owed of seven dollars. Put in jail, he was beaten severely by police officers and while trying to ward off their blows, was shot seven times causing his immediate death."

AUG 21 1941
WIDOW IS ILL

"This shooting does not end with Johnson. His widow is unable to work because of an illness, and his oldest daughter, 14, has been forced to do domestic work at pitifully low wages. This crime has deeply shocked all fair-minded people of the South. The killing of this young father is a dreadful crime as it stands alone. It becomes even more dreadful when we realize how such a crime leads to disunity and unharmonious relations in our con-

country and gives comfort to Hitler and the forces of Hitlerism in our own country. This act performed by the Georgia police who have used the same methods as Hitler's "storm troopers" is indicative of Hitlerism in Georgia itself."

"This is only one of a series of attacks upon the Negro people in the state of Georgia in the past few months. Following on the heels of the organization of this gruesome crime, the torture

for an investigation with the findings to be made public, and further demanded that the guilty police officers be brought to trial and purging of the school faculties of the state of Georgia pay an indemnity to the victim's family.

The letter to Talmadge follows: "We urge you to stop such evil practices and to guarantee full citizenship to the Negro people in the state of Georgia. We are asking for an immediate investigation with

the findings made public within 30 days, that the guilty officers be picked up by the police because of a debt he owed of seven dollars. Put in jail, he was beaten severely by police officers and while trying to ward off their blows, was shot seven times causing his immediate death."

ST. LOUIS, Aug. 21 (AP)—That American mob brutality is not confined to mistreatment of Negroes, but is visited upon whites as well, is revealed in the report made here this week when the sect known as "Jehovah's Witnesses" began a five-day theocratic convention at the Hotel Astor here this week. Visitors numbering 75,000 were expected for the event.

In a report made to the convention it was claimed that, dur-

ing the past year, 600 American mobs attacked and injured some 2,000 members of the pacifist sect.

"Jehovah's Witnesses have been assaulted, beaten, kidnaped, driven out of towns, counties and States, forced to drink castor oil, taunted and insulted by demonized crowds, jailed by the hundreds and held without charge while being denied the privilege of conferring with friends, relatives or lawyers," their report said.

Augusta, Ga. Herald

August 17, 1941

GEORGIA'S GREATEST NEEDS ARE JUSTICE AND MERCY

TALES OF the use of the thumbscrew and the rack in religious persecutions more than a thousand years ago made cold beads of sweat break out even upon those who read them in later years in a comfortable chair.

But those fiendish doings were scarcely more horrible than the news stories coming out of Trenton, Ga., with respect to the treatment of prisoners by the warden and guards of Dade County.

"Twenty-two men in a sweat box 7 1/2 feet square . . . the door jammed tight, its only ventilation a 6-inch chimney. Eleven hours of that, and when the door is opened, only 21 of them can stagger back into the air. The other is dead, dead of suffocation in one phase of what a coroner's jury called 'cruel and inhuman treatment' at the Rising Fawn work camp on Lookout Mountain."

Thus does the Atlanta Journal describe the 1941 model torture chamber which is allowed to exist in Georgia.

Said the Atlanta Constitution of this den of horrors: Even with the door open and only one person inside it is difficult to breath.

Not a pleasant picture, we would say.

All of the poor tortured devils were Negroes in this instance, although complaints have been made that white men have been severely beaten.

The Negroes, of course, get the worst of it on the chain-gangs, and it is greatly to Georgia's discredit and shame that this sort of hellishness is permitted to exist.

No person with half intelligence would urge that prisoners be coddled. Stern discipline must be exercised in dealing with convicts, both white and black.

But there are plenty of Georgians capable of filling jobs as wardens and guards who are not barbarians. Our counties do not always hire men of known character and well-balanced minds to perform these services.

Instead of paying a Negro professor a liberal fee to go about the state telling the colored people how good Georgia has been to them in the matter of education, it would be far better for the governor to spend that proposed appropriation, or even a much larger appropriation, in sending a committee of upstanding citizens about the state to investigate conditions in state prisons and jails and convict camps.

Let this committee be composed of both white and results. colored citizens and give them a year and a liberal Racial equality in Georgia, which only exists, or threatens to become a reality, in the minds—or rather expels account to do the job. And when this committee makes its findings, let words—of a few political-minded leaders, is not worse than the other authorities concerned acting decent and God-fearing citizens of our fine state half so much as are the methods of abuse heap- ed upon some of our unfortunate and underprivileged citizens.

The Negro, for his part, is only asking legal and economic equality, to which he is entitled under the law. He ought to have, and will have soon or late, those responsible for the sweat box and other hellish devices in the convict camp there. Merely to suspend legal authorities of Dade County to throw into jail no less than that.

It lies within the governor's power—when he lacks the power he takes it—to put an end to chain-gang and prison abuses in Georgia. He ought to call upon the sheriff and the other law. He ought to have, and will have soon or late, those men from their jobs and then wait until a lackadaisical investigation wears itself out will not get

15-1941

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

N.A.A.C.P. HITS POLICE BRUTALITY

JAN 17 1941

Express Resentment Over
Continued Abuse by
Local Officers

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

Man Beaten,

Say Witnesses
Of Both Races

Forced To Confess By Third Degree Of State Officer

HUGO, Okla.—Colored and white witnesses appearing here yesterday in the trial of W. D. Lyons, a Negro farmer charged with killing a white family and then setting fire to their home nearly two years ago, testified that the state investigator, Verni Cheatwood, admitted to them that he forced the confession from Lyons after beating him with a blackjack for six hours.

FEB 6 1941

According to testimony brought out at the trial, Elmer Rogers, his wife and four-year-old daughter, were murdered on December 31, 1939, in Fort Towson, Okla., and their bodies burned when their home was fired by the murderer. The only evidence brought out that connects Lyons with the case is the statement of a witness who said Lyons was seen hunting near the Rogers home on the day of the murder, and the forced confession.

Trial Called 'Gala Day'

During the trial, which is expected to close tomorrow, when the case will be handed to the jury, Judge L. R. Childers described the case, which has attracted people from all over the county, as a "gala day." White students in the elementary and high schools here have been allowed to attend the trial with their teachers.

Youth Council Program Jan. 26
The Youth Council of which Miss Dovie P. Jones is president and of which Mrs. Mary G. Sirls is adviser plans a forum type of program

with young people as participants.

Carl R. Johnson, branch president, named the following persons to the executive committee for the year 1941:

C. W. West, vice-president; Edward Pate, secretary; Mrs. Margarette Williams, assistant secretary; Robbie E. Arnold, treasurer; J. H. Bluford, Lucile Bluford, C. H. Calloway, J. H. Crews, Mrs. Myrtle Foster Cook, Mrs. Goldie Elliott, Julius A. K. Ficklin, Rev. D. A. Holmes, Mrs. Cozzetta Seals, Amos Smith, Earl D. Thomas, Thomas A. Webster, W. Richard Tillmon, J. H. Herbert, John Walls, Mrs. Mary G. Sirls, Isadore Gross, C. E. Rambeau, Miss Elsie M. Houn-
tain, Fred Williams and Miss Dovie Patricia Jones.

attend the trial with their teachers. Lyons, who is represented by Thurgood Marshall, special counsel of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and Stanley Belden, of Cushing, Okla.; testified that on the night he was arrested he was struck with a board, had his eye blacked and his head rammed against a brick wall several times, while officers took turns beating him. But, he refused to admit anything, he said.

Confession Forced

Sometime later, he testified, he was taken up to the County Prosecutor's office, where more than ten officers took turns beating him with blackjacks. They then brought in some of the bones of the burned victims, placing them in his lap. They then continued to beat him until 2:30 in the morning, he said, when he finally "confessed." They then took him to the scene of the crime, then to the state pen at McAllister, Okla., where he made a second "confession."

The County prosecutor, Norman Horten, admitted that they hit Lyons with a strap. A state investigator testified that he "yanked his knee." Judge Childers ruled out the first confession, admitting that it was secured as a result of threats, but refused to rule out the second one.

Back in 1939, shortly after the crime was committed a state convict is reported to have confessed the crime and implicating several other convicts. A state prison scandal resulted in the firing of the prison camp boss. The Governor of Okla. 31, 1939, in Fort Towson, Okla., and home, prior to election, is said to have their bodies burned when their home was fired by the murderer. The only evidence brought out that connects Lyons with the case is the statement of a witness who said Lyons was seen hunting near the Rogers home on the day of the murder, and the forced confession.

POLICE BRUTALITY

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

TORTURE METHODS EXPOSED AT TRIAL

FEB 8 1941

Colored and White Witnesses
Tell How Confession Was
"Beaten" From Victim.

HUGO, Okla., Feb. 6—Colored and white witnesses appearing here in the trial of W. D. Lyons, a Negro farmer, charged with killing a white family and then setting fire to their home nearly two years ago, testified that the State investigator, Verni Cheatwood, admitted to them that he forced the confession from Lyons after beating him with a blackjack for six hours.

According to testimony brought out at the trial, Elmer Rogers, his wife and four-year-old daughter, were murdered on December 31, 1939, in Fort Towson, Okla., and their bodies burned when their home was fired by the murderer. The Governor of Okla. 31, 1939, in Fort Towson, Okla., and home, prior to election, is said to have their bodies burned when their home was fired by the murderer. The only evidence brought out that connects Lyons with the case is the statement of a witness who said Lyons was seen hunting near the Rogers home on the day of the murder, and the forced confession.

During the trial, which is expected to close tomorrow, when the case will be handed to the jury, Judge I. R. Childers described the case, which has attracted people from all over the country, as a "gala day." White students in the elementary and high schools here have been allowed to attend the trial with their teachers.

Lyons, who is represented by Thurgood Marshall, special counsel of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and Stanley Belden of Cushing, Okla., testified that on the night he was arrested he was struck

with a board, had his eye blacked and his head rammed against a brick wall several times, while officers took turns beating him. But, he refused to admit anything, he said.

Sometime later, he testified, he was taken up to the County Prosecutor's office, where more than 10 officers took turns beating him with blackjacks. They then brought in some of the bones of the burned victims, placing them in his lap. They then continued to beat him until 2:30 in the morning, he said, when he finally "confessed." They then took him to the scene of the crime, thence to the State pen at McAllister, Okla., where he made a second "confession."

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

MAN SAYS HE WAS BEATEN 6 HOURS BY COPS

Is Forced To Incriminate
Self After Policemen
Apply Third Degree

FEB 8 1941

HUGO, Okla.—(APN)—Despite one of the most sensational exposures of police brutality on record in Oklahoma, W. D. Lyons, accused of the murder of a Ft. Towson white couple, in January, 1940, was sentenced to a term of life imprisonment Friday in a courtroom filled with spectators.

The accused man, whose defense was handled by Atty. Thurgood Marshall, special counsel for the N.A.A.C.P., told a story of numerous brutal beatings, and of being terrorized in the Hugo jail in 1940 until two confessions had been extorted from him.

HUGO, Okla.—Witnesses of both races appearing here Thursday in the trial of W. D. Lyons, a farmer charged with

killing a white family and then setting fire to their home nearly two years ago, testified that the state investigator, Verni Cheatwood, admitted to them that he forced the confession from Lyons after beating him with a black jack for six hours.

According to testimony brought out at the trial, Elmer Rogers, his wife and four-year-old daughter were murdered on December 31, 1939 in Fort Towson, Oklahoma and their bodies burned when their home was fired by the murderer.

The only evidence brought out that connects Lyons with the case is the statement of a witness who said Lyons was seen hunting near the Rogers' home on the day of the murder. **FEB 8 1941**

During the trial, which began on Saturday, when the case was handed to the jury, Judge J. R. Childers described the case, which has attracted people from all over the county, as a "gala day." White students in the elementary and high schools here have been allowed to attend the trial with their teachers.

Lyons, who is represented by Thurgood Marshall, special counsel of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; and Stanley Belden, of Cushing, Okla., testified that on the night he was arrested he was struck with a board, had his eye blackened and his head rammed against a brick wall several times, while officers took turns beating him. But, he refused to admit anything, he said.

Sometime later, he testified, he was taken up to the county prosecutor's office, where more than 10 officers took turns beating him with blackjack. Then they brought in some of the bones of the burned victims, placing them in his lap. They then continued to beat him until 2:30 in the morning, he said, when he finally "confessed."

They then took him to the scene of the crime, thence to the state pen at McAllister, Okla., where he made a second "confession."

The county prosecutor, Norman Horten admitted that they hit Lyons with a strap. A state investigator testified that he "yanked his knee." Judge Childers ruled out the first confession, admitting that it was secured as a result of threats, but refused to rule out the second one.

Back in 1939, shortly after the crime was committed a state convict is reported to have confessed the crime and implicated several other convicts. A state prison scandal resulted in the firing of the prison camp boss. The governor

of Oklahoma, prior to election is said to have sent Verni Cheatwood, an investigator to solve the crime. Cheatwood later arrested Lyons and secured the "confession."

Greensboro N.C. News
February 8, 1941

ONE COMPENSATION.

Of far more than passing or strictly local interest, in view of the instances of official quick-triggeritis which ever and anon present themselves in North Carolina, is a case which has just been disposed of in Cleveland county recorder's court.

In the trial at point Fred Douglas Wray, negro, as we get it from the Shelby Daily Star and the Brooklyn Council of the National Negro Congress in the case, the trial of Lindsey Weaver, Negro, was yesterday set for tomorrow morning at General Sessions Court, 120 Schermerhorn St.

With Stuyvesant-Bedford area residents aroused to a high pitch and the Brooklyn Council of the National Negro Congress in the case, the trial of Lindsey Weaver, Negro, was yesterday set for tomorrow morning at General Sessions Court, 120 Schermerhorn St.

Weaver has been in Kings County Hospital and in jail since Jan. 8, of the officer's version alone. But the day when two policemen beat

let our Shelby contemporary give him mercilessly and shot him three

its own summary of the constable's testimony:

"Doug" Wray was out in Buffalo street near a negro "hall" talking with a man and woman. He was "cutting up and cussing" and boasted

ed he was not afraid of "Kendrick or the law" when warned that the

officer was approaching.

The deputy walked up to Wray and started to grab him, but he started running. The negro turned, put his hand to his pocket and threatened to shoot Mr. Kendrick's "heart out". The officer then pulled

his own pistol and fired, the bullet going through the negro's right

leg and entering from the rear.

This was the officer's testimony.

No evidence was shown during the hearing that "Doug" possessed a weapon. In answer to a question, Constable Kendrick stated that he "never told the negro that he was under arrest". The court held that the resisting charge therefore would be dismissed.

The public drunkenness charge was then discounted when Mr. Kendrick told the court that he "thought" he smelled whisky and that Wray "seemed to be under the influence of something". No further definite testimony was given and the cases were dismissed.

And that seems to clear up practically everything except the fundamental question of what the officer is guilty of. There is, to be sure, the compensating thought that Fred Douglas may give profound thanks that he wasn't shot through the head.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Negro Braten by Cops--to Friday

FEB 20 1941

Brooklyn Neighborhood Aroused; Case Aired in Church Meetings

was struck so his head hit the pole and the nightstick broke.

As Weaver sought to escape the shower of blows, one of the policemen drew a revolver and shot him once in a shoulder and twice in a thigh. While he was at Kings County Hospital, the policemen checked at the 36 Claver St. address and learned that Weaver's story was true. Harold King, who lives at that address, said he threw out the three tires as useless.

BOOKED ON 3 CHARGES

Originally Weaver was booked at the 88th Precinct station on larceny, felonious assault and possession of a dangerous weapon. The latter charge was based on the finding of a penknife in the area where the policemen beat Weaver. At the hearing the policemen, the only witnesses, said he intended to attack them with it.

Upon checking of the facts, the two coppers eliminated larceny from the charge and changed felonious assault to simple assault.

Further indication of the veracity of the police story is the fact that Weaver, who is about 45, weighs 110 pounds. Brannagan, who is six feet, two inches tall, weighs nearly 225 pounds.

Columbia, S.C. State

March 27, 1941

'COVERING TOO MUCH TERRITORY.'

Respectable Negroes of Columbia complain to city council that military police from Fort Jackson are presuming to interfere with civilians, Negro civilians especially. This complaint merits immediate notice and by the highest authority. Military police have their own special field. Off military reservations, they should not be used in policing civilians. Any undue activity on their part in Columbia must be stopped, and promptly; else the situation will be presented directly before the Chief of Staff of the Army.

Atlanta, Ga. Journal
August 15, 1941

The Responsibility

IF IT BE TRUE, as the Coroner's jury found, that "Lewis Gordon came to his death by cruel and inhuman treatment by suffocation in a sweatbox by Warden C. A. Jacobson," the State of Georgia has on its conscience a matter that cannot be resolved by the sporadic indignation of some of its citizens, a flurry of publicity, the punishment perhaps of an individual in a system—all to be followed by inaction and forgetfulness.

Lewis Gordon was a Negro convict. It may be he was surly and vicious. It may be the crime, for which he was to be imprisoned so long as he should live, was heinous and his guilt proven beyond the shadow of doubt. It may be that he was "mean" and there was no good in him insofar as man might see.

But Lewis Gordon was a ward of society, a ward of the State of Georgia in this year of civilization and grace 1941, and it was the obligation of the commonwealth that Lewis Gordon, and all others who might be taken into its custody, should be dealt with justly, humanely, even mercifully.

Georgia's duty no longer is to Lewis Gordon. He is beyond the realm of recourse. Georgia's duty is to make sure those others who remain within its guardianship shall suffer no such brutality as has been ascribed in the death of this one man. Most important of all, Georgia's duty is to itself, and that duty is to know beyond peradventure that its penal system represents civilization and not the Dark Ages.

Only a year ago, the Citizens' Fact Finding Movement reported:

"The inherent weaknesses of the Georgia penal system are about to overwhelm it. This thing bids fair to fall to pieces before our very eyes. The evidence and the moral advance of the times force the conclusion that Georgia needs a new penal system, lock, stock and barrel, radically revised as to methods, objectives and philosophies."

The testimony as to the death of Lewis Gordon, and the monstrous cruelty of packing 22 men into a sweatbox, measuring 7 feet 6 inches square, for 11 hours under a burning sun is something more than the indictment of the individual who ordered it. It is an indictment of the State of Georgia for ignorance of what may be going on under its proud aegis.

15-1941
Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Officers Face 8 More Indictments In Assault Trial

Former Patrolmen Henry J. Martin and James E. Stabler of the Third Precinct, who allegedly marched through Foggy Bottom on last Labor Day evening, and left a string of bruised heads and limbs in their wake, face indictments on eight more charges of assault with dangerous weapons following a three-day trial last week.

A jury before Justice James Morris acquitted them of one similar charge late Friday night after seven hours of deliberation. Martin was found guilty of simple assault and was released on \$1000 bond. Stabler was acquitted.

Both were charged with assaulting Luther Sockwell. Attorneys for the policemen said that they would appeal the verdict of simple assault against Martin.

The prosecutor, Assistant United States Attorney Allen J. Krouse, was preparing early this week to seek trials for the pair on the other indictments.

MAR 29 1941

POLICE BRUTALITY

Augusta, Ga., Chronicle
March 7, 1941

Brutal Punishment

Once again the people of Georgia are called upon to witness a shameful example of the cruel and inhuman punishment meted out to convicts in some of our prison camps.

The House Penitentiary Committee is investigating the case of a Negro prisoner who reportedly was tortured in a "hell box" in a highway camp in Newton county. Several members of the legislature told the committee that they were informed the Negro had been kept for a week in a small box in which he could neither sit down, lie down, nor stand erect, and was fed only bread and water for six days during the cold weather of January.

One of the Representatives, Marvin Allison of Gwinnett county, said he saw the suffering man at the state hospital at Reidsville, and that the physician told him the Negro's feet had been frozen, and that the right foot had to be amputated, and the toes of the left foot had to be removed.

One of the legislators recommended whipping of convicts as a more humane form of punishment.

Why must we so degrade ourselves by even considering a choice between two such barbaric methods of punishment as the lash and the "hell box"?

The details of the Newton county case, if true, should make every decent Georgian's blood boil, and the fact that the victim is a colored man should detract not one whit from the barbarity of the incident.

We had hoped and believed that the whip and kindred brutal instruments for punishing unruly prisoners were relics of the Robert Elliott Burns' "I-Am-a-Fugitive-from-a-Georgia-Chaingang" era, and that less debasing and cruel means of punishment were used in Georgia today.

We are supposed to be living in the enlightened era of the Twentieth Century, not in the Dark Ages. Neither whipping nor unrestricted use of the "hell box" should be countenanced in penal institutions of the state, and if the Newton county story is found to be true, the responsible officials should lose their jobs.

Raleigh, N. C., News & Observer
April 9, 1941

Question Of Fact

For the sake of both the suspended police officer and those who think Raleigh's good reputation was hurt by his treatment of a Negro soldier in what they describe as an "unwarranted and inhuman" fashion, the hearing in this case should be

held as promptly as possible.

It is not a simple case but it is an important one. The admission of the Negro soldier that he had a knife out even though in self-defense before the policeman arrived adds considerable complication to the simple issue of the behavior of the policeman who says the threat of the knife made necessary his blackjack blows.

Obviously the policeman treated the man with violence. Obviously, also, however, the Negro soldier's knife—even if the use of it seemed necessary to him in self-defense in his dispute with taxi-drivers—was an item in violence also.

This case needs full, prompt and fair handling. Involved in it are serious questions of good relations in national defense. If the Negro is guilty he should be punished. If the policeman is guilty he should be punished. As a soldier from the North in the uniform of his country, the Negro owed his uniform decent conduct in it. As a uniformed representative of an enlightened Southern city, the policeman had a duty to act with no greater force than was necessary to uphold its laws.

Is it wrong for a person to ask to be taken some place just because he is a Negro? He did not overstep his grounds, nor did he do anything that would cause him to be arrested for disorderly conduct.

Why don't the people of Raleigh rid themselves of the bullies that call themselves policemen? Are they afraid of them themselves?

Thank heaven I don't live in a place where the police are nothing but cowards, continually beating those who cannot possibly defend themselves.

If anyone is interested, I am white, but feel that a Negro should not be treated like a very low animal when he has done absolutely nothing to deserve it.

MRS. C. D. LEONARD.

Atlanta, Ga.

Sensible white men should have no wish to defend a brutal policeman. Good men of both races in this case as in others must be first concerned about decency in the observance and the enforcement of the law.

A question of fact is presented and it should be answered in terms of the facts alone.

Raleigh, N. C., News & Observer
April 9, 1941

WITNESS OF "BRUTALITY."

To the Editor: Last Summer I was in Raleigh on my first visit to the North Carolina Capital. During my stay, a dog was brutally killed by a policeman. Saturday—on my second visit to Raleigh

I was an eye-witness to the most fiendish and brutal beating of a Negro man. If the Negro had been white, such a thing would never have happened. And now, the police have given a statement to the press that the Negro will be charged with assault with a deadly weapon and disorderly conduct.

Is it wrong for a person to ask to be taken some place just because he is a Negro? He did not overstep his grounds, nor did he do anything that would cause him to be arrested for disorderly conduct.

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MRS. C. D. LEONARD.

Atlanta, Ga.

The best way to preserve good race relations in this case is to base conclusions in it not on emotions but upon the facts fully, promptly, publicly and fairly presented.

Sensible Negroes should have no wish to defend a violent, law-defying Negro soldier.

Savannah, Ga., Press
April 8, 1941

Who's Cruel Now?

The Jacksonville Florida Times-Union, a newspaper published in our neighboring city to the south which often has a kind word on Georgia affairs, is currently getting a "kick" out of a New Jersey boy's plea for the Georgia authorities not to send him back to the alleged terrors of a reformatory in that state. The Times-Union recalls that New Jersey has persistently refused to send a fugitive from Georgia back to this state because of the alleged cruelties he suffered on the chain gang and declares the people of the South, if not most Americans, will get a "kick" out of the shoe being on the other foot now.

Robert Elliott Burns, the well-publicized fugitive, says the Times-Union, painted a vivid picture of Georgia chain gang guards and bosses "that made Simon Legree with his blacksnake whip look like a novice at cruelty. His sisters rushed to the aid of Burns and various and sundry organizations joined in the demand that he not be returned to Georgia to serve the rest of the prison term given him for violating Georgia law. No, they argued, it would be an inhuman act to subject him to such horrible treatment as that accorded members of chain gangs in Georgia.

New Jersey governors—there have been several since the case started—have one after another refused to grant Georgia's request for Burns, on the ground that Georgia prison methods were too rough for the gentle, tender and sensitive fugitive.

"Now the tables have been turned. A New Jersey fugitive has been arrested at Cairo, Ga., which squares the accounts—and in a big way. The Cairo Messenger says Morris Jones, a negro, arrested there, was found to be a parolee from the New Jersey Reformatory for Boys at Jamesburg. He admitted he escaped six months ago because 'they were too tough on me there.'

"And 'please don't send me back there,' he told Cairo officers. 'Can't you put some kind of charge against me and let me serve my time out in Georgia. I don't want to go back to New Jersey under any circumstances.' New Jersey officers told Georgia authorities they were unable to send for Jones and requested that he be instructed to return to Jamesburg. Whereupon he was released from custody and permitted to go his way, although he would have preferred a Southern prison rather than return to his home state. Which is a convincing answer to the attitude assumed by New Jersey authorities in dealing with the Burns case."

Poor, backward, unenlightened New Jersey. Shame on it for having reformatories so conducted that an inmate must flee to

the South to find kind, protective custody. Maybe Mr. Burns' literary talents have been wasted by going so far afield when a fugitive from a New Jersey reformatory indicates there are conditions in his own state which cry for the enlightening influence of his pen.

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

Was Accused By Policeman

Altercation Occurred On Louis-Conn Fight Night

Grady Walker, the Pennsylvania Railroad cook who allegedly was kicked and beaten by a white detective on the night of the Joe Louis-Billy Conn fight, was cleared of malicious assault charges last Friday at a Grand Jury hearing. Walker was accused of assaulting the officer despite the fact that the railroad man suffered a fractured nose and broken tooth.

The action in Walker's favor followed the appearance of his lawyer, Moses Sachs, of 350 Broadway, in Felony Court, and a subsequent recitation of the case to members of the Grand Jury.

Prior to the dismissal, Walker was confined to a prison cell at Bellevue Hospital where he was treated. Then later, he was removed to the Tombs and held in \$1,000 bail for assaulting an officer, Patrolman Cunningham, a plainclothesman of the 28th Precinct.

Observers were quick to point out that Walker's dismissal was quite unusual because, as a general rule, cops have much in their favor. In the Grant Paige case, where an assistant to District Attorney Dewey appeared presumably in the victim's behalf, the case ended in favor of the accused officers.

As a result of the Walker ruling, the victim is now in a position to start civil action against Patrolman Cunningham and the arresting officer, Patrolman Thomas St. Louis. Whether such action would be taken has not been decided as yet.

Attorney Sachs, often called "Liebowitz the second," is willing

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Raleigh Cop Suspended for Attack on Soldier

APR 19 1941

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

COPS FACE SUIT ON ASSAULT CHARGES

APR 26 1941

LOS ANGELES, April 24—Trial date is set, May 14th, for the much publicized personal damage suits against Police Officers Leonard Peters, Jack Crowley and Sergeant John R. Steward as a result of alleged assault and battery charges.

Soldier Badly Beaten

Private Daniels was clubbed over the head with a blackjack by the suspended officer, receiving a broken jawbone, the loss of two teeth and other lacerations of the head and face, following to be struck and beaten by the dispute with a group of white taxi drivers.

The plaintiffs are Earl J. Pinkney, Emmett Jackson, Levi McClain, Clarence Nathan, Chester Martin, railroad employees, and Albert Brennan, Rossmore Hotel bellboy. Walter L. Gordon, Jr., will be their counsel.

Shortly after the incident, charges were filed with the police board of rights, but no action has since been taken by that body.

According to Gordon, the deputy city attorney representing the police, has indicated that he will seek a postponement. Gordon says that he will demand, however, that the defendants proceed to trial.

APR 26 1941

Daily World

Atlanta, Georgia

CHARLESTON YOUTH SLAIN BY S. C. STATE PRISON GUARDS

COLUMBIA, S. C.—Twenty-six year old Richard Hamilton of Charleston County died here in a hospital Saturday morning of wounds sustained in what Col. John M. Glenn, superintendent of state penal institutions, described as the result of an attempted escape from Reed prison farm near Boykin, S. C. Guards are said to

have shot Hamilton as he sought to escape the place ex-prisoners describe as "living Hell." Prisoners at Reed and DeSessaire farms, to which only colored prisoners are sent, are whipped by guards with a five pound strap. Prisoners call the "bull-tongue."

A coroner's jury justified Hamilton's death Tuesday, freeing the guards of responsibility.

SEP 4 1941

15-1941

Times-Picayune
New Orleans, La.

Louisiana Is Through With Dictators and Gestapo Sadism



POLICE BRUTALITY

Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla.

White Patrolman, Accused Of Assaulting Negro Soldier Under Arrest, Is Acquitted

Intervened When Rookie Drew Knife on Taxi Driver During Argument About "Riding Niggers"

Struck Boy While On Ground

MAY 3 1941

RALEIGH, N. C.—(ANP)—Despite the testimony of many white witnesses who said that Private Harold Daniels, of Fort Bragg, was treated with severe and unwarranted brutality by Patrolman N. E. Cannady who arrested the soldier, the police officer was acquitted Thursday by the Police-Fireman's Civil Service commission. Daniels was reinstated to the job and was suspended from his post "just pouring" from his head and heard several persons lowing protests of Negro citizens say he had done nothing against Daniels' treatment.

W. B. Wallace, white, taximan Daniels received a gash on the head, lost two teeth and part of his jawbone from the blows ofles as he tried to remove the policeman who intervened in patrolman's hand from his belt a quarrel between the soldier and saying he was willing to be artaximen at the station here April rested and wouldn't run away.

5. MAY 3 1941

Cannady testified that the soldier had an open knife, had resisted arrest and had threatened him. While Daniels admitted drawing a knife in his quarrel with the taximen after they had drawn theirs, he insisted that he had put his knife away when he saw the officer approaching. Dr. Frazier S. Whittington, physician who treated the soldier, said the severity of the head wound indicated a severe blow.

It was brought out in the hearing that another Fort Bragg soldier, Edward Hall, had entered a taxi-cab at this bus station accompanied by a girl. Daniels testified that the driver told Hall to "get the hell out" of the cab, adding that he "didn't take niggers." Words followed between meeting here yesterday, appointed Hall and the driver, Daniels re-a committee to investigate reports counted, and several taximen of cruel treatment of Jessie gathered, one drawing a knife. Ritchie, a Negro prisoner at the city prison.

Patrolman Cannady approached the scene and attempted to arrest Daniels. He admitted in reached the organization charging court that he had arrested the soldiers and afterward tried to find out what it was all about.

Some of the witnesses who testified at the hearing were: Mrs. G. N. Jones, white, who arrived on the scene after the black-

bus driver, whose testimony was identically like Wallace's.

Miss Iola G. Black, school teacher, who said the officer struck Daniels three times, once when he was on the ground.

Dr. Frazier S. Whittington, physician who treated the soldier, who said the severity of the head wound indicated a severe blow.

Constitution

Atlanta, Georgia

Cruelty Charges

MAY 3 1941

Will Be Probed

Georgia Humane Society, in a meeting here yesterday, appointed Hall and the driver, Daniels re-a committee to investigate reports counted, and several taximen of cruel treatment of Jessie gathered, one drawing a knife. Ritchie, a Negro prisoner at the city prison.

Mrs. Stacy Hill, secretary of the society, said that reports had reached the organization charging that Ritchie had been forced to wear leg irons night and day for 26 days and that he had been so severely crippled by the irons that he has been unable to work.

Those appointed to make the investigation were Mrs. Paul Dixon, Mrs. Katherine Weathers-

Bee and Mrs. Beatrice Lee, The society, of which Dr. Emory Park, of LaGrange is president, also will seek to have barrels of water and sand placed in cattle barns at the stockyards here for protection in case of fire.

Protest Treatment Of Prisoners On Farm

MAY 4 1941

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.
**Police Offer
Youth \$2 To
Forget Beating**

**Boy Kicked By Cops
Seeks NAACP Aid To
Avenge Injuries**

NEW YORK—"One of them took me out in the hall and said they were sorry and to forget about the whole thing, and said, 'Take this. Forget it,' and placed two dollars in my hand." MAY 25 1941

This statement is from the affidavit given to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People by Edwin Lark, 20, a machinist, who was kicked, chased and beaten by two New York City detectives Wednesday, May 14.

According to Lark, who works at night, he left the building where he works on the night of May 14 to get his supper, noticed a crowd at 45th street and went to investigate. The two detectives who were pushing the crowd back, turned to him, told him to "Beat it!" and one of them, for no reason, kicked him in the groin. Lark ran back into the building he had just left, followed by the police who trapped him in an elevator and began kicking and beating him.

Lark's employer and a bystander reported the matter to the police. Lark came the next day to the N.A.A.C.P. office where he talked with members of the legal staff. That afternoon he was approached at work by the two detectives who offered him two dollars to "forget about the whole thing."

The boy has made an affidavit against the men which has been sent to New York Police Commissioner Lewis J. Valentine with the two dollars attached. MAY 25 1941

A hearing on the case is expected soon. Thurgood Marshall, special counsel for NAACP, is handling the case for Lark.

—A Colored Judge—

OFFICERS BEAT AND KICK 20-YEAR-OLD MACHINIST, THEN TRY TO BRIBE HIM

TS
Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Files Charges Against Cops Who Attacked Him

NEW YORK—"One of them took me out in the hall and said they were sorry and to forget about the whole thing and said, 'Take this. Forget it,' and placed two dollars in my hand."

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This statement is from the affidavit given to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People by Edwin Lark, 20, a machinist, who was kicked, chased and beaten by two New York City detectives Wednesday, May 14.

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A hearing on the case is expected soon. Thurgood Marshall, special counsel for N.A.A.C.P., is handling the case for Lark.

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Lark's employer and a bystander reported the matter to the police. Lark came the next day to the N.A.A.C.P. office where he talked with members of the legal staff. That afternoon he was approached at work by the two detectives who offered him two dollars to "forget about the whole thing."

The boy has made an affidavit against the men which has been sent to New York Police Commissioner Lewis J. Valentine with the two dollars attached. MAY 25 1941

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Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

ONE WORD MORE

By RALPH McGILL. *AUG 17 1941*

"WHAT'S A PRISON FOR?" A sweat box, which most Georgians thought illegal, has caused the death of a Negro prisoner, one of 22 brutally confined for a long period of hours in a small, airless room.

That a contributory cause of death was undernourishment due to lack of sufficient food was announced by a prison physician who said, "All these men (prisoners) are undernourished."

It now is proposed that stocks be employed.

Stocks are a relic of a long-gone past. We have assumed we were more civilized than to put a prisoner in stocks and keep him there in one cramped position, exposed to the elements, until he fainted or, being possessed of stronger stuff, endured the punishment.

Thinking Georgians will demand that the sweat box be eliminated and that the stocks be not employed.

All this talk, following the death of the prisoner in the sweat box, is discouraging because it again reveals that all the investigation misses the main point—

What is the purpose of a prison?

We know the stories of chains and leg irons. We know the stories of physical torture, such as sweat boxes, stocks, whippings and starvation.

We know that for one human being to torture another is a form of human degradation. We believe that a person who will impose deliberate torture on a person already degraded, is himself degraded.

By the same token a society which permits such things to happen is itself degraded. It may not happen swiftly, but it happens. It may be seen in apathy, in a shrugging away of it, in an attitude which admits the horror of the facts but which is not aroused.

It all comes back to the proposition—What is a prison for?

WRONG APPROACH If we will think a bit we must admit that a system which offers merely hard work and punishment is not what society intended a prison to be.

Obviously many of the men in the work camps are hardened, dangerous men. *AUG 17 1941*

Yet it cannot be contended that brutality and starvation will make them less dangerous. It is a fact, I think, that our system, the work camp system, falls short of an appreciation of the problem.

There are many, I know, who say that what the — — need is work from sun-up to sun-down, poor food and the ready lash and sweat box to enforce discipline. They seem to have been in charge of the work camp system, or at least to have dominated it.

We cannot claim there were, at the Rising Fawn camp, for instance, a single report of any single regenerative or rehabilitating influence. That same condition the committee seems to have found in all work camps. There is, apparently, not a single indication that any modern development or any modern outlook, has reached these camps.

What we have been doing is not trying to rehabilitate as we punish, but merely a sort of vicious revenge on a man who has violated the law.

I do not think anyone will insist that a man or woman is imprisoned as an act of revenge. Society has said it is punishment for a violation of the laws of society, but that rehabilitation shall go along with the imprisonment. If our prison system lacks, as it apparently does, any regenerative influences at all, then we should do something about it.

OUR OWN FAILURES Those who believe in the "revenge" theory, and who apply the lash and impose sentence in the stifling sweat box, argue that they are making the prisoner afraid to come back to prison.

They forget that a person so degraded and so missing in any preparation to be a better person on leaving prison and supplied with no skill to enter the economic competition for jobs, can do nothing else so well as come back to prison.

Georgia has been trying the degrading "revenge" system for a long time. Georgia has more than double the average number of men and women in prison in other states.

It cannot be said our system has served to keep them out. Seventy per cent of our felony prisoners are under 30 years of age.

More than half are under 25.

About half the felony prisoners are totally illiterate. There are about as many of these white as black.

The other half has a percentage of about 60 per cent whose writing is a semi-illiterate scrawl.

We must admit that our work-camp personnel of wardens and guards leaves much to be desired. Few, if even one at all, knows anything of prison work. Already we learn that two of our present wardens are themselves ex-convicts with murder sentences behind them.

Georgia needs a study of her prison system. Georgia needs to keep on working to break her prison system away from political patronage so that a guard will not be some person whose sole training for the prison job consists of having driven a car to bring in voters on election day.

Our system of deterring crime by brutality has failed.

It is disturbing that, so far, the only remedial proposal has been that of substituting stocks for sweat boxes. Surely we can think better than that!

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

HOLD INQUEST TODAY IN DEATH.

AUG 19 1941
Of Prisoner; Body Will Be

Exhumed; 3 Officials Accused

**Inquest to be Held to Determine
Whether Deceased Was Whipped To
Death by Guards at Sparta Camp**

AUG 19 1941

In a statement Monday, Judge Vivian L. Stanley, member of the State Prison and Parole Commission, said the body of Flam Bell, colored prisoner who died recently at the Sparta State Highway camp, will be exhumed today and a coroner's inquest held to determine whether the deceased was whipped to death by camp guards.

The judge explained that during that the three camp officials be the investigation no action would suspended while the inquest is held be taken on recommendation of and the matter cleared up. The legislative penitentiary committee that Warden N. A. Comp—the committee got information ton, Guard Boss Alvin Johnson "from some of the worse prisoners and Dr. E. H. Hutchens, the camp we've got." physician, be suspended.

The inquest will start this morning rather than have indorsement of Coroner H. A. Berry, of Hancock guards and best people in Hancock County.

A delegation appeared before the Compton insisted he was in Fulton and Parole and Prison Commission ton County when Bell died. He Monday to protest the findings of said he would not tell a lie to the legislative committee who visit— save himself or any of the other ed the camp to investigate the officials. Each of the three accused men denied there had been

a whipping. *AUG 19 1941*
The report released by the committee said it found "strong evi— In an interview Monday, Talmadge that Flam Bell came to his madge said that both, sweat boxes cloth by severe whipping by a and stocks, were bad "on the person known as Guard Boss John health". He refused to say which he favored for punishment, declaring he would rather hear from

The committee recommended experts on the matter.

In the meantime, Mr. Talmadge Eddie and Freddie Goble, now serving as prison camp wardens. Both men were pardoned several years ago by Governor Talmadge after they had been convicted of killing a colored minister.

"These boys are twins and when they were about 16 years old they helped kill a Negro along with another white man who was older than they were," the Governor said.

"I can tell you they are both mighty good wardens because I have seen them on the job. One of them escaped while serving and came back and surrendered to Eugene Talmadge while he was running for governor in 1932. When I was elected, my first official act was to pardon that boy. That was Eddie."

Often, in the face of almost sure death, prisoners rebel and make a dash for freedom. In Paulding country at a camp known as "Little Alcatraz" Warden C. A. Jacobson, who has been bossing Georgia chain-gangs for 20 years, *AUG 3 1941* **REALIZE MISTAKE**
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15-1941

POLICE BRUTALITY

Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla.

The Lyons Case

FEB 8 - 1941

The case of W. D. Lyons will be immediately appealed to the Criminal Court of Appeals of this state. If ever there were a clear cut case of injustice exposed in Oklahoma the N. A. A. C. P. has done the job this time.

Here we have a case where, if you take out the torture confessions, there is nothing left but the fact that a young Negro happened to be hunting on New Year's eve, 1939. There is no evidence that this Negro was ever closer than within a half or three quarters of a mile of the Elmer Rogers home. There is no evidence that proves Rogers was shot with the gun carried by W. D. Lyons.

Lyons admits having gone hunting and when arrested took the officers to a place in the woods where he told the officers he shot at a rabbit. Two empty shells were found there and Lyons had three unexploded shells in his possession. The state went to great extent to show that Lyons purchased five shells on Saturday before the crime was committed. The further one goes into this phase of the subject, the more inconsistent becomes the state. Lyons had five shells. He fired two at a rabbit and he retained three. This ought to convince any reasonable person that he did not fire the shots which pierced the bodies of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Rogers.

But while Lyons has never confessed to the killing, a white man has. It is common knowledge all over Choctaw County that around about the time of the Rogers murder convicts from a prison camp near Sawyer were running all over the country-side indulging in all sorts of drinking orgies and constantly menacing the peace and safety of the Fort Towson community.

FEB 8 - 1941

Next day after the crime was committed a convict named Frank Wellman was arrested in connection with the murder. Later a 72-year old white woman went to officials of the county and gave information resulting in the arrest of two other convicts (all white.)

The old woman testified that Houston Lambert had come to her home with his hair singed and his clothing bloody on the night of the murder. Keep in mind now that testimony in the Hugo court last week showed Mrs. Elmer Rogers' body was dragged back into the flaming home by one of the murderers which would indicate the assassin should have blood on his clothing. No clothing of Lyons were produced in court last week which showed evidence of blood.

A complete confession was obtained from Houston Lambert, regarding whom the old lady gave information, and this immediately created a political scandal which reached right on up through the warden's office at the state penitentiary to the Governor's desk. The warden is an appointee of the governor.

immediately there appeared on the scene state highway patrolmen, a special state investigator, ballistic experts and representatives of the attorney general's office. Suddenly all of the convicts arrested were released, including Lambert, who had voluntarily confessed and recited in detail the story of laxness in the prison camp and the opportunity state convicts had to commit crime. Do you get the picture?

A few days later Lyons was arrested. It had been discovered that he was hunting on the Sunday the Fort Towson couple was murdered. Lyons had been sent to prison prior to this arrest for chicken stealing. He was one of the ordinary youths that lived in the "quarters", as the Negro section at Fort Towson was referred to by county officials during the trial.

When arrested that day Lyons immediately told the officers about his whereabouts on the day of the triple murders. He told of his hunting and also about his having laid around with the boys in a thicket near where the boys had cached some whiskey. There's nothing strange about the gun and his hunting trip, because the man from who Lyons purchased the shells stated under oath he had sold Lyons shells on many occasions.

If you turn to another page of this issue you will find Lyons' statement from the witness chair, detailing what happened to him after he had landed in the clutches of the law. Two confessions were extracted from the defendant. Judge Childers in discussing the first confession ruled that ".....a state of mind may have been created when this boy was first beaten that would have caused him to make the later confession".

The evidence at Hugo showed Lyons was arrested around nine o'clock one night and beaten and questioned until around four o'clock the next morning. Without sleep, water or food he was again beaten, then rushed up to the scene of the crime where coatless he was compelled to stand in the icy atmosphere for hours. He was then slammed back in jail, whipped, photographed with a state investigator and the sheriff and then transported to Antlers. Still without food or water Lyons was rushed on to McAlester where, according to Lyons he was whipped and clubbed again.

FEB 8 - 1941

We wonder whether the criminal court of appeals will assume that the terror and torture visited upon this defenseless Negro during his horrible and atrocious experience "created a state of mind" which carried over from the "jail" to the "prison" confession? Frankly we do not expect the Lyons case ever to be advanced to the Supreme Court of the United States.

Judge Childers himself would be willing to sign a statement in which he would swear that he killed Christ, were he compelled to suffer the agony through which W. D. Lyons must have passed, during the hours he was the victim of black-jack artists in the Choctaw County court

house at Hugo.
just as the father of the slain woman, her sister, and other relatives that the "mad dog" which County Attorney Norton talked about is still at large in Choctaw County. In ancient times they used to sacrifice calves and other lower animals as atonement for sin, but we think the State of Oklahoma is going too far when it seeks to take the life of a defenseless black youth in order to cover up official delinquency at the state prison.

There are so many strange angles jutting out of this case. For instance; where is Van Bissell? Why did the state not have Van Bissell in the court house last week? He is named in the Lyons indictment as co-defendant. Why is another man, who it is alleged, helped to burn, help and shoot three innocent people allowed to go scot free, and on a \$5,000.00 bond? **FEB 8 - 1941**
We were told while in Hugo that the man who qualified on Van Bissell's bond is not worth \$500.00. Could this be true. According to N. A. A. C. P. officials to whom Van Bissell reported to in Tulsa, following his release, he was given funds by white citizens of Choctaw County and told to leave Hugo and never return. Is this true, and if true, why is it profitable for Choctaw County officials to act in this strange manner? Such conduct does not make sense in the Chinese language.

For one whole week this writer sat by the side of W. D. Lyons. We are very definitely impressed with his obvious innocence. As we said at the outset. The case will be appealed in the interest of elementary justice. We believe

Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla.

The Lyons Case

The case of W. D. Lyons ~~will be immediately appealed to the Criminal Court of Appeals of this state. If ever there were a clear cut case of injustice exposed in Oklahoma the N. A. A. C. P. has done the job this time.~~

Here we have a case where, if you take out the torture confessions, there is nothing left but the fact that a young Negro happened to be hunting on New Year's eve, ~~on~~ 1939. There is no evidence that this Negro was ever closer than within a half or three quarters of a mile of the Elmer Rogers home. There is no evidence that proves Rogers was shot with the gun carried by W. D. Lyons.

Lyons ~~admits~~ having gone hunting and when arrested took the officers to a place in the woods where he told the officers he shot at a rabbit. Two empty shells were found there and Lyons had three unexpected shells in his possession. The state went to great extent to show that Lyons purchased five shells on Saturday before the crime was committed. The further one goes into this phase of the subject, the more inconsistent becomes the state. Lyons had five shells. He fired two at a rabbit and he retained three. This ought to convince any reasonable person that he did not fire the shots which pierced the bodies of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Rogers.

But while Lyons has never confessed to the killing, a white man has. It is common knowledge all over Choctaw County that around about the time of the Rogers murder convicts from a prison camp near Sawyer were running all over the country-side indulging in all sorts of drinking orgies and constantly menacing the peace and safety of the Fort Towson community.

Next day after the crime was committed a convict named Frank Wellman was arrested in connection with the murder. Later a 72-year old white woman went to officials of the county and gave information resulting in the arrest of two other convicts (all white.)

The old woman testified that Houston Lambert had come to her home with his hair singed and his clothing bloody on the night of the murder. Keep in mind now that testimony in the Hugo court last week showed Mrs. Elmer Rogers' body was dragged back into the flaming

house at Hugo.

There are so many strange angles jutting out of this case. For instance; where is Van Bissell? Why did the state not have Van Bissell in the court house last week? He is named in the Lyons indictment as co-defendant. Why is another man, who it is alleged, helped to burn, hack and shoot three innocent people allowed to go scot-free, and on a \$5,000.00 bond?

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13

'I Was Beaten Four Times'

Lyons Tells Choctaw Jury; Tortured With Hands Tied

Knocked Down, Kicked In Head, Lips Burst Open, Right Eye Injured By Official Mob

Charges Warden Threatened Electric Chair

FEB 8 - 1941

HUGO, Okla.—Telling a story of numerous brutal beatings and a state of terrorism in which he was held from the time of his arrest in Hugo in January, 1940 up until two confessions had been extorted from him, W. D. Lyons, being tried here for the murder of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Lambert, went upon the stand in Judge J. H. Childers' court here today.

Beaten Four Times

The defendant testified that he was beaten four times. First on Jefferson street the night he was arrested, once in jail, once in the county attorney's office, and once in the sheriff's office.

Lyons also told of being beaten twice after being incarcerated in the state penitentiary at McAlester and he said on both occasions the warden was present.

Signed Two Confessions

The defendant admitted signing two confessions but said they were both obtained under duress.

"They came to my home and arrested me. There were two officers in the party," said Lyons. "They started clubbing me on Jefferson street."

Horton Objects to Questioning

County Attorney Norman Horton objected at this point to the testimony of Lyons, but Judge Childers said he wanted Lyons to tell all that happened. Defense Counsel Belden had asked Lyons about something that occurred after the signing of the purported confession.

"A state of mind might have been created when this boy was first beaten which might have caused him to make the first confession," Judge Childers said.

Tied Hands With Belt

"The officers tied me with my own belt when they arrested me at my mother-in-law's home," said

continued to tell him that I knew nothing about the crime."

For the first time in the trial the name of the governor's investigator entered the trial.

"Cheatwood kept beating me and firing questions at me," said the defendant, as he followed the line of questioning. "You answer the questions of that prosecutor." I told them I did not know anything about the crime and they beat me from six o'clock in the evening until 4:30 in the morning," Lyons told the court.

Cursed and Clubbed

Lyons said the sheriff did not beat him but he said "Mr. Howard Roe beat me" and he said one of his tormentors said, "You G-d S-b, you committed that crime," and started clubbing him again.

Lyons said that after about two hours the sheriff came in and stopped them from beating him, but he said eleven days later they started clubbing him again. He said his right eye was injured and that his nose bled for a week. He said his lips were burst open.

Highway Patrol Involved

The second time they came Lyons said he was hit with a blackjack by a highway patrolman while handcuffed on the ground floor of the jail. "He struck me in the back of the head," said Lyons. "They then took me up to the county attorney's office." The defendant, under questioning, said those present during the second inquisition were Roy Harmon, the sheriff, whom he said came in and out, Floyd Brown, Van Raulston, Mr. Cheatwood, two highway patrolmen, the county attorney and assistant county attorney.

"Cheatwood sat in front of me and called me all kinds of Black S-b's and threatened to stick red hot irons to me. He told me I must answer the prosecutor's questions. I told him I did not kill Elmer Rogers and his wife," Lyons told the court.

Lyons said that the sheriff took him by the arm and helped him up, and that he was immediately locked up.

"They came and got me again and took me to the same little room," said Lyons.

Taken to Scene of Crime

Lyons said it was then they said they were going to take him to the scene of the crime. "They brought a pan full of bones they said came from the bodies of the slain couple and laid them in my lap."

The defendant said that after threatening him for a period he was then taken by Cheatwood, Harvey Hawkins, a highway patrolman, and an assistant county attorney, to the scene of the crime.

FEB 8 - 1941

"Mr. Cheatwood told me he was taking me down there to kill me in a highway patrol car. Harvey Hawkins said after we got down to the Rogers place that he was making a fire to burn me," said Lyons. From what the witness indicated, Cheatwood left.

The prisoner said one of the men then secured a pick and threatened him, "but I still insisted I was innocent," said Lyons.

Find Ax

Lyons said a little later he turned around to find that Harvey Hawkins had an ax in his hands which Hawkins said he took out of the ashes of the home. "They then accused me of putting the ax there, and just at this time Cheatwood and the assistant county attorney drove up."

Lyons said he was surprised to discover the men telling Cheatwood that they had found the ax and that he told them of its presence there and how to find it.

The defendant was taken back to the jail and, according to witness, Cheatwood, the assistant county attorney and the court clerk brought a statement up the next day for him to sign.

Taken to State Prison

"I asked them what it was but Cheatwood said, 'Never mind what it is, you sign it.' They went down and had their picture made with me and later took me to Antlers and then to the state prison.

"Mr. Van Ralston took me into the warden's office and Mr. Dunn started questioning me," said Lyons. "He wanted to know if I killed those people and I said 'No.' Mr. Dunn questioned me for about thirty minutes and Mr. Ralston beat me on the arms knees and legs."

Witness Respectful

It was very noticeable that the defendant referred to all of the officers to whom he referred as "ister" and showed every type of respect for those he accused, but he was firm and unshaken as he told his straight-forward story.

"Mr. Van Ralston said, 'Answer these questions or you'll be treated like you were down at Hugo.'" The witness admitted that he

finally signed the confession after he had been sent down into "death row" a short distance from the electric chair.

"Mr. Dunn told me he had sent thirty-nine to the electric chair and unless I pleaded guilty I would be the 40th one," said Lyons.



Dr. Sherwood Eddy, author, lecturer and world traveler, will speak Saturday, February 8, in a one-day "Y" Fellowship Conference to be held on Langston campus.

15-1941

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Baltimore Negroes Organize Against Police Brutality

National Negro Congress and NAACP Conduct Probe of Growing Cop Killings of Negroes; Youth Is Latest Victim

(Special to the Daily Worker)

BALTIMORE, Md., Aug. 10.—The shooting of Lawrence Reed, 16-year old Negro boy of 1030 N. Eutaw St., by policeman Frank Ruzek has aroused considerable protest in the Negro community of this city this week.

Reed was shot through the chest last Thursday as he prepared to raise his hands in surrender to Officer Ruzek, who claims meetings held this week called for him to search for a stolen car "mass protest against the Gestapo."

The killing is the latest episode in a current campaign of "round-up" and intimidation of Negro people.

A month ago a cripple was badly beaten in South Baltimore during a "search for numbers writers."

Carl Murphy, editor of the Afro-American, was arrested at his home and locked up because he resented a policeman trespassing and questioning him about a minor automobile accident in which his wife was involved.

Garney Ross, a 37-year old longshoreman, was slain by Officers Charles Cervin and John Hinter in the corridor of University Hospital while awaiting an examination.

The Baltimore Council of the National Negro Congress has set up a committee headed by Dr. Lucy Mason and William Murphy to launch a campaign against police brutality.

The Council has issued a statement calling for immediate investigation of the Police Department by Mayor Jackson and Governor O'Connor.

The National Association for Advancement of Colored People has called in its attorneys Charles Houston of Washington and W. A. C. Hughes, Jr., of Baltimore to probe the latest killing and to represent the family of the slain youth.

The Communist Party of Balti-

POLICE BRUTALITY

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

The Inhumanity Of A Warden

IT IS REPORTED AUG 15 1941 that in Dalton, Ga., a warden was accused of the inhuman death of a Negro prisoner in his care. After several were shot down, 21 of the remaining number were placed in a cell 7½ feet square for eleven hours with a six-inch vent in the roof as the only means of ventilation. The cause for this atrocious punishment was simply a refusal on the part of the men to work as a protest against frequent inhuman beatings for which the Georgia state gang seems to be noted. A coroner's jury found that "Lewis Gordon came to his death by cruel and inhuman treatment at the hands of the warden of the camp, C. A. Jacobson". Such a malicious and malignant act is barbarism at its lowest stage and is certainly abhorrent to the good taste of respectable people.

Truly prisoners might be vicious at times and rash measures might have to be taken for the decorum of the prison, but they are victims of our social order and society through its state and national governments must find a way out more moral and Christian to care for the criminal group among us, than shooting them as dogs and meting out to them such cruelty of which Warden Jacobson is accused. They might be terribly bad but human nevertheless. The act of the warden is as disgraceful and obnoxious to the refined taste of life as the crime committed by the prisoners in his charge. Does it mean that we must employ criminality to stamp out crime? Society will make no headway with criminals in cells if it must employ criminal wardens to superintend them. Whether this dastardly inhuman crime has been meted out to a Negro, Mexican, or Caucasian makes very little difference, it is its barbaric implications that render it objectionable and should challenge respectable white people in whose hands lies the power, to eradicate it from the penal code. To protect the Negro from such vicious attacks, is to protect the white man from a similar attack later. When the appetite of the tiger calls for blood it makes very little difference to him whether it be the Negro or the white man. White people who wink at and condone such an atrocity against the Negro would live to see a similar act meted out to their own people.

—The Industrial Era, Beaumont, Tex.

that Moore's death be investigated by the Dade County Grand Jury, which also is expected to study the fatal "sweatbox" incarceration of Lewis Gordon, Negro.

Warden C. A. Jacobson, of the Rising Fawn Camp, already has been dismissed by the State Prison Commission in connection with Gordon's death and the incarceration of 21 other Negroes in a single unlit cubicle.

Death in a Prison Camp

Those gentlemen of the general assembly who are investigating the current brutal scandal at the Dade county prison camp could improve the value of whatever report they intend to submit by devoting one of their leading chapters to an intelligent expansion of the thought simply expressed by Prison Physician S. B. Kitchens:

"The prisoners are overworked and underfed."

It might be necessary to explain to some laymen that when a physician discusses overworking and underfeeding in a direct, simple sentence of that type, he is comparing merely the type of feeding with the type of work.

A sample of one day's menu for the convicts and guards at the Rising Fawn prison camp in Dade county, brought to Atlanta by a reporter for The Constitution, is an irrefutable verification of the doctor's argument. That day's menu for breakfast, dinner and supper was brought along with all the other facts of that inhuman story to illustrate how the guards were being fed twice as much as the prisoners. It does more than that. It shows that the guards, sitting down to tables relatively groaning with food, actually were eating just that much more hay than the prisoners. There really is not enough nourishment in either menu—convict's or guard's—to keep a normal man in health. Convicts out all day on back-breaking jobs, even if given generous portions, as they were not, could not possibly find in the food sufficient nourishment to restore the energy they expended during the day.

AUG 17 1941

Anyone of these convicts or guards compelled to live on such valueless food for a protracted period faced just as certain loss of stamina and resistance as that Negro prisoner, Lewis Gordon, who died in the sweat box.

All of this merely serves as another illustration of what every Georgian knows—our prison and convict system is administered by untrained men. The wardens are politically selected. The guards get their jobs for what "work" they did in campaigns.

Men who have been trained in schools or in courses of prison administration are not wanted. It is not surprising that every indication points to the fact our convict prison system is one of the worst.

Not only is sadistic cruelty evident; not only is shocking brutality present, but over it all is the patent fact that cruelty and brutality are employed to solve problems a trained man could solve with knowledge.

The prisoners were being starved, one may assume, in the name of economy. The guards were eating off plates piled high with food and still weren't getting much food value.

No one knew—or thought—anything about diet. Just as no one seems to know—or think—anything about modern, corrective methods.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

PRISON PHYSICIAN FIRED FOLLOWING CONVICT'S DEATH

AUG 16 1941

RALEIGH, N.C., Aug. 14—(ANP)—A physician for Forsyth County Prison camp, Dr. E. H. Spainhour, was summarily dismissed from the State prison service Tuesday because he failed to give adequate care to a Negro convict who died following an ~~Memphis Tenn. Commercial Appeal~~ ^{jury received in the camp.}

John D. Rockfellow, 43, of Charlotte, a prisoner serving five months for liquor violation, was injured when he fell from a truck while working on a road gang along the highway. He was taken to the Forsyth prison camp, where Dr. Spainhour happened to be.

Spainhour examined Rockfellow enough to discover that he had a broken leg. He did not fashion a splint for the prisoner's leg nor give him an anaesthetic, but told prison attaches to put Rockfellow on a mattress in a prison cage and take him to Central prison hospital here. Rockfellow died 20 minutes after reaching the hospital. Postmortem showed internal injuries. AUG 16 1941

State Prison Director Earl Pitts telephoned Dr. Spainhour immediately he had investigated the case, talking to the attendants who brought the man to the hospital, and told the prison physician he was no longer needed by the State of North Carolina prison department.

BOYLE INVESTIGATES CASE

Commissioner to Give "True Facts" To Joe T. Ransom Today

Commissioner Boyle last night said he had made a thorough investigation of the arrest of Mrs. Joe T. Ransom, 1571 Forrest, on a double parking charge after she had protested Officer C. E. McNeil's treatment of a negro prisoner, and that he would give a detailed statement of facts in the incident to Mr. Ransom today.

Mr. Boyle would not comment on the investigation except to say that he had received "the true facts" about the incident from disinterested witnesses." He had no comment as to whether his investigation revealed Officer McNeil was hasty in his action towards Mrs. Ransom.

Mrs. Ransom charged the officer arrested her because "he got angry with me when I protested because he brutally pushed the negro prisoner into the patrol wagon." She paid a \$3 fine at the Traffic Bureau after the incident occurred.

New York ~~Age~~
New York, N. Y.

Police Brutality In 3 Cities

Atlanta Ga Constitution
August 20, 1941

Philadelphia Baltimore and Montgomery Alabama were all scenes of what Negro organizations and leaders called "brutality" on the part of police against Negro citizens last week.

In Philadelphia community agencies and citizens were aroused over the shooting and alleged framing of Walter Dunbar by a white patrolman Harry Gatta. AUG 30 1941

Dunbar, eyewitnesses allege, was attempting to protect a mentally defective child from a beating at the hands of the officer when the latter, angered by his interference, shot at him.

Released from three weeks of recovery from his wound in a hospital, Dunbar was immediately jailed on what Philadelphia citizens termed "trumped-up charges" and held in \$1000 bail which he was unable to raise.

Baltimore citizens were engulfing authorities with a wave of indignation charging a whitewash in the failure to punish a white policeman who is said to have brutally killed Lawrence Reed, 16, of that city, two weeks ago.

Under the Rev. Baxter L. Matthews, officer's and members of the Union Baptist Church have demanded a thorough probe of Police Commissioner Stanton.

In Montgomery, both Negro and white citizens were up in arms over the shooting of Ocie Flowers by Patrolman Brassell during a street corner fight. Flowers died at the Fraternal Hospital the same day. AUG 30 1941

Police said Flowers drew a knife on Patrolman Durden who had answered a call on the corner of Oak and Mobile streets, where Willie Gates, a Negro, had been hurt. Police said Brassell knocked Flowers to the ground and fired at him supposedly in self-defense.

Monday afternoon at Main and Monroe.

Dudley Glass

Butting in—again—to a field which has been so adequately covered by better reporters:

Convict camps. Sweat boxes. Floggings. Deaths of prisoners. And indifference, apparently, by all concerned. Except the wives and children of the victims.

Many years ago a small town newspaper editor became famous for an editorial entitled: "What's the Matter With Kansas?"

What's the matter with Georgia?

On one hand we have the record of numerous criminals paroled by a most merciful executive—if the cases are laid before him by the right lawyers or other friends—and a few weeks later a report of this penitent criminal being locked up in the jug for a new offense. Which can be proved on him. That is most embarrassing for all concerned.

On the other hand we get reports—verified with details—of convicts overworked, underfed, sick, crippled, being locked up in "sweat boxes" which would make the Black Hole of Calcutta, the synonym for inhuman cruelty—feel like an air-conditioned movie.

Men who land in a prison camp are no angels—with rare exceptions. Most of them are tough customers. Mean, "ornery," not to be trusted, dangerous. They're "bad."

But, nevertheless, they are human beings. They have had their trials and sentences. They were condemned to so many months of imprisonment. They were not condemned to brutality and perhaps death.

That 'Convict Lease'

It is my pride that many years ago I helped to break up and totally do away with the infamous convict lease system—in which convicts were hired out to coal miners and turpentine operators and brickmakers and others.

The men who hired these convicts from the state—and some of our best families got rich that way—were not concerned with a

convict's health or well-being. When he died they could get a fresh one. They thought much more of their mules—because the state didn't furnish fresh mules.

Convicts were beaten to death, shot to death, starved to death. Why not? There was always a fresh supply of husky brutes.

We thought that when the convict lease system was abolished we should have a decently human system in its place—where there was no incentive for a man or company with a lease to work a man to death and then have the state replace him with a fresh slave.

There has been an improvement. A vast improvement. Not so many prisoners are loaded into the dead wagon after an official doctor's official opinion that he died from "natural causes."

But we still have such instances. Some of them reach the newspapers. Many others do not. Just a "dead nigger" at a convict camp. If anybody wants to know, he was a "mighty bad nigger." He tried to escape or he assaulted a guard and was killed in self-defense.

Sometimes that is true. But, I think, not always.

I refuse to believe that the State of Georgia or its prison authorities at the capitol wants convicts killed or abused.

But we have that human element with us—and always will have. Prison guards are not likely to be the type of men you'd invite to dine at your home and listen afterward to a symphony concert.

They are likely to be a rather below average type in mentality and decency. Recent reports show several of them were former convicts—which ought to have given them some sympathy with other poor devils in stripes.

Georgia has had enough black eyes, dating from even further back than the notorious picture, "Fugitive From a Georgia Chain Gang."

I don't know how tough convicts should be kept under control.

But I don't think murder is the answer.

15-1941

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

FLA. TEACHER Protests IS BEATEN BY Made By A POLICEMAN Negroes

MAR 22 1941

Knocked Down, Kicked
As She Remonstrates
At Assault

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla.

(APN) — Miss Aljeta Hargray, local school teacher, was brutally beaten by an enraged patrolman Sunday when she objected to his method of arresting an alleged traffic law violator.

According to witnesses, the young woman accompanied by her sister-in-law came upon a group of white persons standing around watching Patrolman Verne Goodbread beating Andrew Jamison into insensibility. Her remark, "Isn't there some other way to arrest that man without beating him in that way?" caused Goodbread to turn and knock her down in the street and kick her. MAR 22 1941

Miss Hargray's brother, Moses, demanded that the officer stop beating his sister. Witnesses say the brother had a knife in his hand. The Rev. Colclough told the councilmen that one of the members of his committee had protested to Col. L. A. Page, provost marshal at Fort Jackson, against the action of the military police. He quoted the provost marshal as saying the "mayor said give 'em hell." Although Mayor Owens

Jamison, badly bruised and swollen as a result of the beating given said he did not overhear that him by the officer, was fined \$115 particular statement at council for reckless driving and assaulting meeting, he afterwards called back an officer. The others were held newsmen and emphatically denied under \$200 bond, and at the hearing giving any such command. He said that he had previously condemned mistreatment of Negroes and whites alike by police. MAR 22 1941

BOY SLAPPED DOWN

Members of the committee who accompanied Rev. Colclough made a trip to the heart of the Negro

district to verify complaints made against military and city police. They were approached by two military police, and while a city official in plain clothes stood outside the establishment which the group had entered, were ordered to "get out" and "go home," although they had done nothing, the council was told. The military police then "slapped down" a fourteen-year-old boy who was walking by the scene at the time, the committee reported. APR 3 1941

The Ministerial Union's president said that conditions ought to be remedied and that the council itself had authority to do so, and that "If somebody gets killed, I'll blame you gentlemen because you can stop it." He charged that the beatings were nightly affairs and that conditions on Saturday nights assumed riot proportions.

Other members of the protesting committee were A. J. Collins, president of the Civic League; J. W. Brunson, president of the Columbia Branch of the National Negro Business League; and E. A. Adams, president of the local branch of the NAACP.

Page denied having made a statement to the effect that Negro citizens were to be mistreated and said "I have shown every consideration for the Negro civilians and soldiers."

Charleston S C News & Courier
March 28, 1941

COLUMBIA HEARS NEGRO CHARGES

Mayor and Councilman are to See General Russell on 'Mistreatment'

Columbia, March 27.—Allegations that the military police and civilian police have mistreated Columbia negro residents were aired in city council meeting yesterday, after the charges were made by Rev. J. C. Colclough, pastor of Sidney Park Methodist church and president of the interdenominational ministerial union.

As a result of the hearing, Mayor L. B. Owens and City Councilman Gary Paschal were authorized to confer with Major General Henry D. Russell, post commander at Fort Jackson, and the mayor directed

POLICE BRUTALITY

Chief of Police L. J. Campbell to halt any mistreatment by city police.

Open hearings will be held before city council of Police Sergeant E. D. Harrell and Police Officer R. M. Bardent, the former on the allegation of entering a place of business and "beating" the negro proprietor and the latter of alleged "beating" a negro woman prisoner in the search room at the city hall.

The negro pastor told council that the negroes, who compose approximately 40 per cent of the population of Columbia, were "growing more and more nervous".

He said that a committeeman had protested to Lieutenant Colonel Lewis A. Page, provost marshal at Fort Jackson, against the action of military policemen.

He quoted the provost marshal as saying that army rules did forbid such interference in civilian affairs but held his finger before his lips to indicate silence on that point.

Colonel Page was likewise quoted as saying that "the mayor said to give 'em hell".

Mayor Owens said he did not overhear that particular statement at council meeting but afterwards called back newsmen and emphatically denied giving any such command. The mayor said that he had previously condemned mistreatment of negroes and whites alike by police.

Members of the committee who accompanied the ministerial union president, made a trip on Washington street to verify complaints made against military police and city police, council was told. While they were there, the group cautioned young folks leaving establishments to be quiet and orderly to avoid giving offense.

The ministers were approached by two military policemen and while a city policeman, in plain clothes, stood outside, the ministers were ordered to "get out" and "go home", although they had done nothing, council was told. The military policeman then "slapped down" a fourteen-year-old negro boy who was walking by the scene at the time, the committee reported.

"I am grieved and shocked at some of these things that have happened," Councilman Gary Paschal said.

Military police officers have explicit instructions to deal only with military matters and have orders not to interfere with civilian affairs, Lieutenant Colonel Page, provost marshal at Fort Jackson, said last night.

He denied receiving any word from Mayor L. B. Owens, or of making such a statement himself to the effect that negro citizens were to be mistreated and said, "I have shown every consideration for the negro civilians and soldiers".

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Claim Soldier Attacked By N. C. Policeman

APR 15 1941

RALEIGH, N. C.—(APN) — The Raleigh Negro Citizens' committee last Sunday asked R. C. Powell, commissioner of public safety to suspend the patrolman who brutally beat and blackjacked Private Harold Daniels, colored soldier, on Saturday, at the bus station. The committee termed the assault "unwarranted and inhuman." Daniels was in uniform when attacked. He is attached to the 76th Coast artillery, Battery C, last battalion.

The letter to Commissioner Powell from the citizens' committee was signed by Chairman J. W. Yeargin and Secretary W. H. Peace. It stated:

"After a careful investigation we find that this assault was unwarranted and inhuman. We are, therefore, asking the immediate suspension of Patrolman N. E. Canady until this matter has been investigated by your office.

"Because of the sentiment which has been aroused over this brutal assault by an officer in your department, we are forced to make this request in the interest of the good name of our city."

Questioned the policeman said Daniels was "swinging" a knife and "tried to wring loose" after Canady grabbed his Army belt.

From his bed in St. Agnes hospital, the soldier said that he was not swinging a knife at the policeman. He said he and his companion, together with a girl, started to get in a Strop taxi behind the station.

"The driver told my friend to get out; he wasn't carrying no niggers," the blackjacked soldier said. "I said to my friend, 'Come on, let's don't have any trouble, but one word led to another.'

"About six other taxi drivers got around us, and one of them pulled out a knife. Then I pulled out a knife I had, to protect us. About that time one of the drivers called for a policeman and when I saw him coming over I put my knife up."

APR 15 1941

"Daniels said the policeman

came over and grabbed his belt. "I said 'Am I under arrest?' "He said 'yes', so I said, "Then turn me loose, I'm not running away." He said he wouldn't turn loose and the others (the drivers) kept egg- ing him. They said: Hit the niger'."

Continuing, Daniels said he told Policeman Canady that the drivers had begun the quarrel and that one of them had pulled a knife on him, but that the policeman persisted in holding him.

"So I tried to puu away. He (Canady) knocked me down twice and I didn't try to get up again, figuring I would just get hurt some more." MAR 15 1941

Witnesses said the soldier was lying in a "pool" of blood when a patrol car arrived for him. He was laid on the floor of the car, rather than the seat, and driven to the hospital where he declined assistance from police and was helped out by a nurse.

A 2 1/2 inch gash on the head and a bruised and cut upper lip received immediate attention. The stubs of two broken-of upper front teeth were removed yesterday, together with a portion of the upper jawbone.

The official police report on Daniels injury said he received "abrasions on the head" about 5:05 p. m. at the bus station, but omitted stating that Canady administered the "abrasions".

Police said they would charge Daniels with disorderly conduct and assault with a deadly weapon upon an officer when he is able to leave the hospital. Canady, the object of the alleged assault, was unscathed.

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

Trial of Two Officers Charged With Brutality Now Under Way

MAR 22 1941

Trial of two former policemen of the Third Precinct, charged with beating and kicking Luther N. Sockwell, an employee of the National Airport Station, on Labor Day night as he stood on the corner of Twenty-fourth and Virginia Avenue, Northwest, began its second day before Justice Morris in Criminal Court this morning (Thursday).

The specific charge against the two ex-policemen, Henry J. (Bull) Martin and James E. Stabler, is "assault with dangerous weapon." The trial, expected to last at least two days, opened up late Wednesday evening before a jury of eight white men and four white women.

Jury Is Lily-white

Two colored jurors, Mrs. Ella Milton who has a son-in-law serving as special policeman at the Reservoir, and a Mr. Crossley, who were called to the box before the opening of the trial, were challenged by the defense and excused from active service.

Mr. Sockwell himself was the first witness called to the stand by Allen J. Krouse, assistant U. S. district attorney who is prosecuting the case. MAR 22 1941

He related how he was standing on the corner awaiting his wife who had gone into the home of her mother, at 2406 Virginia Avenue, when he noticed two officers, one tall and one short, chasing some colored youth. As he moved along slowly, the witness declared that the two officers stopped their pursuit and one grabbed him in the back of his clothes.

"Knocked to Street"

"The short officer began to beat me with his stick," said Mr. Sockwell, "and they told me to run but I couldn't. They struck me over the head also. As I started across the street, one struck me and knocked me down. While I was down one kicked me in the side while the other struck me with his stick."

A torn, blood-stained shirt was exhibited by Mr. Krouse and identified by Mr. Sockwell as the one he was wearing when accosted by the two officers. The accuser also testified that after the officers administered the beating they walked off and left him lying in the street. A crowd gathered and he was taken to Emergency Hospital in the auto of a white man who happened to be passing.

Record Produced

The case rested late Wednesday with Mr. Sockwell still on the stand undergoing a barrage of questions from the three counsel

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

FLORIDA TEACHER BEATEN BY COP

MAR 22 1941

Washington Tribune
Washington, D. C.

MAN SHOT BY COP WHILE OFF DUTY IS NEAR DEATH

MAY 3 - 1941

Robert Gray, 33, of 1725 U Street, Northwest, shot in the stomach by Policeman F. E. Davis, 28, white, of the Second Precinct, on Tuesday night, following a controversy in the 1600 block of Twelfth Street, Northwest, was in a critical condition at Freedmen's Hospital on Wednesday night.

Officer Davis, who lives at 2236 Nicholson Street, Southeast, was off duty and not in uniform, according to the police report. As Gray walked up Fourteenth Street toward Q, Davis arrested him on disorderly conduct charges, the report continued.

According to the policeman's story, Gray slapped him and fled. Gray was overtaken a short distance away. When the officer tried to strike Gray with a blackjack, the latter is said to have grabbed the weapon and was at the policeman.

The report continues that Davis pulled his revolver and shot twice, one bullet taking effect.

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla., March 20 (AP)—Miss Alzeta Hargray, local school teacher was brutally beaten by an enraged patrolman Sunday afternoon when she objected to his method of arresting an alleged traffic law violator.

According to witnesses, the young woman accompanied by her sister-in-law came upon a group of white persons standing around watching Patrolman Verne Goodbread beating Andrew Jamison into insensibility. Her remark: "Isn't there some other way to arrest that man without beating him in that way?"

caused Goodbread to turn to her, knocking her down in the street and kicking her. MAR 22 1941

Miss Hargray's brother, Mose, came up and demanded that the officer stop beating his sister. Witnesses say the brother had a knife in his hand. Miss Annie Mae Roundtree, who had been observing the scene from her car, approached the group and was arrested along with Miss Hargray, her brother, and her sister-in-law.

Jamison, badly bruised and swollen as a result of the beating given him by the officer, was fined \$115 for reckless driving and assaulting an officer. The others were held under \$200 bond, and at the hearing Tuesday were fined \$50 each.

15-1941

POLICE BRUTALITY

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Reveal Prisoner Was Shot While Sitting In Jail Cell

OCT 2 1941
Tolson B6
Washington Policeman Is
Being Held on \$10,000 Bond

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(ANP)—Something new in police activities was brought to light here last week when Roland Lindsey, colored youth charged with rape, told the court that while he was confined in a police station awaiting trial, an officer attached to the station walked up to his cell, pulled a pistol and fired at the prisoner.

OCT 2 1941
Policeman Arnold F. Jackson, 28, of Number 1 precinct is being held in \$10,000 bond set by Judge Walter J. Casey in police court on a charge of assault with a dangerous weapon. He was held for grand jury action and was sent to the district jail, pending further action.

Lindsay, who is 19, testified in court that he was reclining on his bunk about 9 A.M. on July 23 when the policeman appeared and fired at him through the bars.

Lindsay was the first of three witnesses to testify. He was calm as he told his story and spoke clearly. According to his testimony, a policeman came to the barred door in the corridor leading to the cell block and said if he had his way he would shoot Lindsay and save complainant handed him the bullet thru the bars of the cell doors and that it was flattened with a sliver broken from it. He returned it to Lindsay. The latter said he gave it to the jailer and didn't see it again.

Inspector Maurice Collins testified that he investigated the case and found marks on the bars about six feet from the floor. There was also a mark on the cell wall, he told the court. Then he exhibited a sash from a window opposite the cell where Lindsay was being held. There was a deep dent in the door's wooden frame and the inspector said he was "not in position to say what's in there" as he brought it to the attention of the court.

WOMAN BEATEN IN HOSPITAL BY ST. LOUIS COP

SEP 27 1941

B
Unprovoked Attack Upon
Patient Stirs Demand
For Police Shake-Up

ST. LOUIS — (Special) —
A definite movement is on foot here to wipe out police brutality towards Negroes following the naming, Monday, Sept. 8 by the local branch of the N.A.A.C.P. of a committee to present definite complaints to the board of police commissioners early in October.

Three newspapermen are on the committee: R. A. Jackson of the Argus, chairman; Chester E. Stovall of the Call and N. A. Sweets

of the American, along with Father D. R. Clarke, Rev. Milton Thompson, Leonard L. Harris and Dr. C. H. Wilson. SEP 27 1941

Latest outrage to be reported is that of a Race woman, just before midnight, in the receiving room at the Homer G Phillips hospital, being knocked to the floor by a white patrolman. Immediately Dr. John W. Williams, on duty at the time, remonstrated with the officer and a report forwarded immediately to officials.

The woman was not a prisoner! She was a patient being taken to the hospital by the policeman for treatment following an alleged attempt to ravish her. She reported immediately upon her arrival at the hospital that the policeman had hit her while in the car on the way to the hospital. The slugging followed.

Friday, Sept. 12, Judge George Grellner, after hearing more testimony in the case of Curtis Brown, foundry worker, who was beaten by a white officer while handcuffed announced that he would render a decision in the case Oct. 3.

How Brown was manhandled by the officer was further related by additional witnesses who said that the officer beat him in the street for no reason at all.

Placed on probation after fines of \$10 each had been meted out to them in City court No. 1 by Judge Grellner, Tuesday, Sept. 9 by peace disturbance charges growing out of their arrest by Officer Carter of the Tenth district police station, three young St. Louisans are mapping plans to carry their cases to the board of police commissioners and see if steps can be taken to assure other persons in that section of the city decent treatment at the hands of police. SEP 27 1941

Fined were Mrs. Georgia Price and Mr. and Mrs. James Caruth, owners of the Continental bar.

Charges of resisting arrest, made against the trio were dropped. Similar charges made against James Price, active Twenty-third ward

Young G. O. P. worker and husband of Mrs. Price and Frank M. Jones, president of the Colored Clerks Circle and son of Attorney Georgia Jones Ellis of Chicago, were dropped.

When both Price and Jones made determined pleas in their own behalf, Judge Grellner ordered the peace disturbance charges against them also dropped.

Woman Says She Was Beat By Cop

Cohen B6
morning.
Police brutality flared up again in Newark Saturday morning when officer Robert Meyers is alleged to have severely beaten Bernice Wise of 433½ Washington street with his nightstick.

According to the victim she was seated in the doorway at this address when the cop came along and kicked her on her feet and said, "On you're feet." She is alleged to have asked him what she had to get on her feet for and he then attempted to drag her into a waiting taxi cab. After a brief scuffle she attempted to escape out the opposite door and as she did so, the officer is said to have hit her over the head with a club. He later got out and again hit her with the stick and then called the wagon and took her to the hospital and then brought her back to the First Precinct where she was booked on a charge of disorderly conduct. SEP 27 1941

The defendant claims she told the officer when he tried to force her into the cab, "if you want to lock me up call the wagon."

Colored citizens in the neighborhood were aroused over the incident and brought the victim to the Herald News office to tell her story and have pictures taken. Witnesses claimed there was no provocation for the policeman's act.

When arraigned in the First Precinct Saturday morning she was held under \$25 bail but was later paroled in her own custody for appearance in court Monday

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Hearing Today on Accusations of Police Brutality

Attack on Newton, Negro WPA Union Leader, Brings Probe

The New York Conference for Inalienable Rights is one of a large number of organizations which will send official observers to the open hearing on police brutality towards Negroes which will be held this morning at 10:30 in the Sixth Division Police headquarters, 229 W. 123rd St., the WPA Teachers Union announced yesterday.

Miss Rosalie Manning, president of the Conference for Inalienable Rights, has sent a letter to the Police Department, protesting the alleged beating by police, on July 19, of Herbert Newton, Negro vice-president of the WPA Teachers Union, in the 23rd Precinct Police Station.

Today's hearing was won, the union's president, William Levner, stated yesterday, as a result of the widespread protest which resulted from the police beating of Newton, which he described as "the last straw in a whole series of incidents of police brutality against Negroes."

Levner named Joseph Tauber and Moses C. Weiman as the two attorneys who will represent the Newton defense at the hearing.

PICKETS WERE ATTACKED

The alleged police attack on Newton last July occurred after Newton had been arrested while leading a peaceful picket line of 75 persons who were protesting the dismissal of 20,000 WPA workers. The picket line, on which both Negro and white workers were marching, was brutally attacked by police, according to the charges of the WPA Teachers Union, and a total of 26 persons were arrested.

Newton, the union witnesses have stated, was handcuffed and taken away alone in a police car, as yet uninjured. The following day, after he had been held for 24 hours incommunicado, he was found by Attorney Weiman in the prison ward of Bellevue Hospital, suffering from crushed ribs, resulting pleurisy, concussion of the brain and other se-



HERBERT NEWTON

rious injuries. Charged of "felonious assault" and "possessing a razor" by his alleged assailants, he was released only on payment of the exorbitant bail of \$1,000.

According to Newton's signed statement, his injuries were the result of a beating in the 23rd Precinct Police station, by a group of detectives and police, led by Detectives Emmett Howe, who preferred the charges against him and also was described by witnesses as "ringleader" of the police attack on the picket line.

The list of outstanding persons and organizations who, according to the WPA Teachers Union, have offered support to the union's Committee for the Defense of Herbert Newton, included Miss Eleanor Weinstock, executive secretary of the National Committee for Peo-

ple's Rights. Dr. Max Yergan of the National Negro Congress, the Rev. John Wallace Robinson, director of Christ Community Church of Harlem, the Committee for Better Schools in Harlem, and Local 5 of the Teachers Union.

The American Civil Liberties Union is sending a representative to the hearing, and has informed the WPA Teachers Union that they will cooperate in the case, William Levner said.

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Prisoner In Cell Shot At

Warren, Ark. Police Chief Kicks Woman

WASHINGTON — (AP)—Something new in police activities was brought to light here last week when Roland Lindsey, colored youth, told the court that while he was confined in a police station awaiting trial, an officer attached to the station walked up to his cell, pulled a pistol and fired at the prisoner.

Policeman Arnold F. Jackson, 28, of Number 1 precinct is being held in \$10,000 bond set by Judge Walter J. Casey in police court on a charge of assault with a dangerous weapon. He was held for grand jury action and was sent to the district jail, pending further action.

Policeman Fired At Boy on Bunk

Lindsay, who is 19, testified in court that he was reclining on his bunk when the policeman appeared and fired at him through the bars.

Lindsay was the first of three witnesses to testify. He was calm as he told his story and spoke clearly. According to his testimony, a policeman came to the barred door in the corridor leading to the cell block and said if he had his way he would shoot Lindsay and save the city a lot of money.

Then, Lindsay said, as he pointed to the defendant, Jackson stepped from behind the other officer

and fired. Lindsay said there was no exchange of words prior to the shooting.

Bullet Struck Above Prisoner's Head

The bullet struck the wall about two inches over his head and the flattened pellet fell beside him on the bunk. When he picked it up, it was still warm, he told the court.

Robert Wright, colored, another prisoner, backed up Lindsay's story and added that he was in the adjoining cell dozing and the shot scared me." He added that the complainant handed him the bullet thru the bars of the cell doors and that it was flattened with a sliver broken from it. He then returned it to Lindsay. The latter said he gave it to the jailer and didn't see it again.

Inspector Maurice Collins testified that he investigated the case and found marks on the bars about six feet from the door. There was also a mark on the cell wall, he told the court. Then he exhibited a sash from a window opposite the cell where Lindsay was being held. There was a dent in the door's wooden frame and the inspector said he was "not in a position to say what's in there" as he brought it to the attention of the court.

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

Hold 4 Women Involved in Subway Attack Which Stirred "Police Brutality" Battle

Virginia Moore, 37, and Maude Watson, 25, both of 1424 Atlantic Avenue, Brooklyn; Cathleen Odom, 18, of 1 W. 118th St., and Marie Bakry, 26, of 73 W. 118th St., the latter two addresses in Manhattan.

Four women involved in what onlookers say was another case of "police brutality" were ordered held for the Grand Jury Tuesday in Felony Court, Brooklyn. They are confronted with the charge of attacking a patrolman who allegedly admonished them for boisterousness in the Throop Avenue station of the Independent Subway.

However, several onlookers say that the officer struck one of the women with his nightstick and for that reason the attack followed. Magistrate Gasper J. Liota set \$1,000 bail each on charges of felonious assault.

Patrolman Morris Kluger said he ordered the women to move along at 1 A. M. on July 31. He also said the women charged him and one slashed his back with a knife. The station agent is said to have summoned more police and Kluger was taken to Kings County Hospital where 16 stitches were taken in his back. He remained there for two weeks.

Those facing the charges are

15-1941

Statesville, N. C. Daily
April 10, 1941

Should Apply Everywhere.

In Raleigh the other day, a Negro soldier, whose home is in New Jersey, and temporarily away from his barracks, had an encounter with a Raleigh policeman, resulting in some broken teeth and bruises for the colored man. The officer claims the Negro was resisting arrest and about to carve him with a knife, and excuses his rough handling with that.

The officer was suspended on the complaint of a witness who described the treatment as "unfair and unwarranted," and the case will be given an airing promptly, and it is to be hoped, settled righteously for all concerned.

That is a local matter for Raleigh, and the only purpose in this recital is to use the comment of the Raleigh News and Observer on this unfortunate affair:

"There should be no question of racial partisanship in the hearing into this case. The question is not whether the policeman is white—that is admitted—but whether he was brutal. The question is not whether the soldier is black—that is admitted—but whether his behavior was such that he made necessary the blows which he received. Negroes and friends of Negroes would not wish to defend the misconduct of a Negro soldier. Sensible white men would not wish to defend the brutality of a white policeman.

"The best way to preserve good race relations in this case is to base conclusions in it not on emotions but upon the facts fully, promptly, publicly and fairly presented.

"Sensible Negroes should have no wish to defend a violent, law-defying Negro soldier.

"Sensible white men should have no wish to defend a brutal policeman."

That, we submit, should be posted in every emporium of justice in North Carolina, from the magistrate's back-room to the chambers of the higher courts, and it should be kept in mind by every straight-thinking citizen interested in justice. For in a few words it is both a creed and a judicial yardstick, notched with good sense and tempered with a fine sense of the rightness of things.

The Raleigh paper's comment is based that Mayor L. B. Owens con-

directed at a particular case involving racial difficulties. It could well apply to every such case everywhere.

Raleigh, N. C. News & Observer
April 12, 1941

JUSTICE.

To the Editor: Many readers no doubt remember the letter published in the People's Forum April 9 entitled "Soldier and Policeman."

While reading the words, "Thank God there are still a few Southerners who do not think Negroes their equal," it occurred to me that perhaps Mrs. Cone was pouring out her thanks in the wrong direction. God gave to the Negro, as well as the Southerner, a heart, a mind, and a soul. He gave the Negro emotions, too; this some people seem to have overlooked. And God is no respecter of persons.

Though white and a true Southerner—not believing that Negroes are on our social level, I'm quite sure that God loves the blackest man as much as the whitest.

Who was at fault in the soldier-police-man incident I would not say, not having been an eye-witness; however, justice should be done—to the black and white alike. Let us remember that God loves our race no more than any other race on this earth which He created.

RACHEL MURRAY.

Wilmington.
Raleigh, N. C. News & Observer
April 10, 1941

DEMOCRACY.

To the Editor: To make public the brutal treatment of the Negro soldier at the bus station is an evidence of true democracy. That it should have happened at all is evidence that a dying era of injustice and cruelty to a helpless minority is indeed not quite dead. The policeman involved should not only be fired, he should be punished. What room have we for criticizing the Nazis when we use the same methods?

ELLIS CREDLE.

Rocky Mount.
Columbia, S. C. Record
April 8, 1941

Paschal Reports Clarification Of Negroes' Claims

Investigation of charges that Negroes had been beaten by city policemen and military policemen has been completed and the situation has been clarified to a great extent; Councilman Gary Paschal, mayor pro tem, said today.

It was Mr. Paschal who pro-

posed that Mayor L. B. Owens con-

fer with Fort Jackson authorities and that two city policemen be summoned before city council relative to charges that the Negroes had been mistreated by the military police and city police.

When asked today what action had been taken, Mr. Paschal said that he and Mayor Owens conferred with military authorities and that an investigation had been made.

With reference to the city policemen, he said that the charges made at a city council meeting three weeks ago had been magnified and that the city officials' investigation disclosed that the charges were not as pictured to city council.

Mr. Paschal said he conferred with a group of Negroes yesterday relative to the situation and was told that the situation had been clarified to a great extent.

City policemen have been instructed not to mistreat any person and military authorities have directed military policemen to deal only with soldiers.

Raleigh, N. C. News & Observer
April 15, 1941

RACE RELATIONS.

To the Editor: I am a young Negro, senior in one of the colleges in this community. For the past week I have followed with keen interest the police-soldier incident. It makes me burst with pride to know that Mrs. C. D. Leonard is brave enough to stand out in the great multitude in the name of humanity and justice. I am also from the state of Georgia.

How are we as young Negroes to feel about such an incident? Are we not Americans? Has not American Negro blood been spilled in all its wars to save democracy? Have we not toiled to help carve this great nation out of the wilderness? But yet an American citizen, in the streets of the fair capital of North Carolina, is beaten by an officer who is supposed to uphold the law. I have brothers who registered in the draft, and at present one is in camp. It hurts me to feel that my blood is to be wasted for a country in which I am to receive such treatment when I wear its uniform. I have the greatest respect for the law as long as it is lawful under the Constitution of the United States. I love my country and am willing to give my last drop of blood to see and feel assured that neither it nor its Constitution will fall into the hands of Hitler or any group that builds its rule on hatred or race prejudice.

I have read the letters written and published by you concerning the incident. I regret to say that some people in our midst think that good relations between the Negroes and whites can be established by a policeman's blackjack. The work of years to better race relations can be destroyed in a few minutes by such an incident.

HENRY B. PERRY.

POLICE BRUTALITY

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

A Friend's Tap At the Door Terrifies Those Who Dread The Secret Police

By ROBERT QUILLEN.

Poley was a nineteen-year-old colored boy. He had been a sickly infant and his mother had described him as "poorly," though she pronounced it "poorly." Hearing it so often, he thought it his name and so in time it became.

He was feeling poorly, indeed, for he was in a cold jailhouse with a hangover.

The night before he had drunk enough cheap wine fortified with alcohol to become gay and mannish. Five white boys, also mildly drunk, had surrounded him and pushed him from one to another and threatened to beat him, and during these goings-on a policeman had appeared.

JUL 30
Poley was the only one arrested. One of the white boys said he had drawn a knife.

Though he didn't realize it, Poley was receiving special honor. A newly-elected reform judge, a kind and just man, had decided to examine him in the jail's back office. The arresting officer was also present, and the three sat on kitchen chairs.

It was a chilly morning and Poley, dressed in overalls and jumper and cotton shirt, was cold and miserable and sick at his stomach. Also he was badly scared. He never before had been arrested, but he had heard awful stories about the third degree.

"I couldn't stand a beatin' now," he said to himself, "but they won't whup me if I say yes."

Two more cops came in to enjoy the show. They were big ones, and Poley's eyes widened with fright when he saw the night sticks hanging at their belts.

"Now, Poley," said the kind judge, "let's talk it over in a friendly way and try to get at the truth. Did you pull a knife on those boys?"

Poley hadn't, but he knew what was expected of him. He dropped his head and said: "Yas, suh."

The arresting officer tried a shot in the dark. "Some nigger has been peddling whisky around here," he said. "Was that you?"

Poley started to deny it, but the two big cops stepped closer to hear his reply. He saw the movement and cringed in terror.

"Yas, suh," he said quickly.

"And what about these houses that have been entered lately?" asked the officer. "Did you do that?"

One of the big cops struck a match to light a cigarette, and Poley almost screamed. One thing he couldn't stand was burning.

"Yas, suh," he whispered, "Ah done it."

"Strange case," said the kind judge to a reporter next day. "He confessed everything without hesitation, and there was no third degree or anything like that."

April 14, 1941

"AMERICAN DEMOCRACY."

To the Editor: After President Roosevelt has proclaimed America the arsenal of democracy for all the world and has successfully imposed a bill of \$7,000,000,000 upon the American people for the operation of his proclamation, and after Secretary of State Hull has termed the German invasion of Yugoslavia barbaric and inhuman, Patrolman Canady of the Raleigh Police Department felt himself called upon to stage a demonstration of American democracy at work by a brutal exercise of authority upon a Negro soldier. With no plausible excuse except it was asked for by a group of white taxi drivers. That the victim of the brutality wore "uniform of the United States Army" did not a all. What did matter was that he was black.

The innocence of the Negro is important because if that attack could be dismissed as a recitation between a patrolman and a soldier, one would be willing to the outcome of the trial of the before offering any comment. was far more than just that; it the American system of democracy at work; a system built up by of intolerance, injustice and racial toward the most loyal and patriotic group in America today. A system which automatically brands the Negro aggressor in any dispute in which white man and a Negro are involved. Doubtless, if the truth were known, the character of that battered Negro soldier equals or surpasses any one of his white taxi driver accusers, but Patrolman Canady knew nothing of that and cared less, he did his duty as he saw it. Had he been taught to do different he would have done so. As a product of the American system, he acted in accordance with its teaching.

Asking for and getting the suspension of the patrolman is not the solution because what he did is merely symbolic of the way America feels toward the race which has contributed so much to her greatness. Until the whole stinking pile of sham and hypocrisy has been pulled down and discarded and democracy allowing justice and opportunity for all has been substituted, such outrages and worse will continue.

America raises her hands to the high heavens in holy horror at the outrages committed by Hitler but those same hands are reeking with the blood of outrages committed by Americans upon Americans. America burdens her people with staggering taxes to pay to stop injustice and aggression thousands of miles away but at home she allows those things to run rampant and encourages them by doing nothing to stop them. If it were ever true that charity begins at home. America needs that

truth stamped upon its heart and needs it now.

JAMES A. SHEPARD.

Raleigh, N. C. News & Observer
April 21, 1941

SHOULD APPLY EVERYWHERE.
The Statesville Daily.

In Raleigh the other day, a Negro soldier, whose home is in New Jersey, and temporarily away from his barracks, had an encounter with a Raleigh policeman, resulting in some broken teeth and bruises for the colored man. The officer claims the Negro was resisting arrest and about to arrest of the Negro soldier.

carve him with a knife, and excuses his rough handling with that.

The officer was suspended on the complaint of a witness who described with the average Tar Heel. This applies the treatment as "unfair and unwarranted," and the case will be given rural and small-town dwellers. Among an airing promptly, and it is to be most of these the most disgraceful term hoped settled righteously for all concerned.

That is a local matter for Raleigh, and the only purpose in this recital is to use the comment of the Raleigh News and Observer on this unfortunate affair:

"There should be no question of racial partisanship in the hearing into this case. The question is not whether the policeman is white—that is admitted—but whether he was brutal. The question is not whether the soldier is black—that is admitted—but whether his behavior was such that he made necessary the blows which he received. Negroes and friends of Negroes would not wish to defend the misconduct of a Negro soldier. Sensible white men would not wish to defend the brutality of a white policeman.

"The best way to preserve good race relations in this case is to base conclusions in it not on emotions but upon the facts fully, promptly, publicly and fairly presented.

"Sensible Negroes should have no wish to defend a violent, law-defying Negro soldier.

"Sensible white men should have no wish to defend a brutal policeman."

That, we submit, should be posted in every emporium of justice in North Carolina, from the magistrate's back-room to the chambers of the higher courts, and it should be kept in mind by every straight-thinking citizen interested in justice. For in a few words it is both a creed and a judicial yard-

stick, noting sense and tempered with the sense of the rightness of things.

The Raleigh paper's comment is directed at a particular case involving racial difficulties. It could well apply to every such case everywhere.

April 22, 1941

***NEGRO SOLDIER CASE.**

To the Editor: A day or two ago Thomas Street of Enfield had occasion to criticise the editor of The News and Observer for "pussyfooting" on our national policy. While Mr. Street was, and is, correct—for ye editor has been dodging the issue—in my opinion, and the opinion of several other people with whom I have discussed the subject, ye editor deserves more condemnation for the way in which his paper handled the arrest of the Negro soldier.

Ye editor, living among the "intellectuals," has lost touch apparently with the average Southerner, and especially

with equal if not double force to our Tar Heels. This applies to the treatment as "unfair and unwarranted," and the case will be given rural and small-town dwellers. Among an airing promptly, and it is to be most of these the most disgraceful term hoped settled righteously for all concerned.

That is all wrong. No one from Georgia can tell one from North Carolina that and make it stick. We have seen it happen both ways and seeing is believing. Why anyone will travel from way down yonder to way up here to witness a dog killing and seeing a man put under arrest seems far fetched to some of us. By no means can they kid the colored race into thinking they are treated more highly elsewhere than in North Carolina. All good, law-abiding folks here have no trouble regardless of color.

The colored soldier probably did no

more than a white would. Without a

doubt received no worse treatment.

However, the boy from New Jersey should thank his stars that he stopped where he did instead of down yonder.

really be from Georgia?

When an eyewitness from North Carolina was in Georgia and saw ten lynchings in eight years. There was something just a leetle roughish going on. As people then remarked. The people from Georgia must get hardened to the ways of North Carolina. No man, white or colored, oversteps his bounds by asking to be taken somewhere. But when he resists arrest such as wringing away from an officer, then he is courting trouble, and plenty of it. The witness makes the statement that if he had been white such a thing would not have happened.

That is all wrong. No one from Georgia can tell one from North Carolina that and make it stick. We have seen it happen both ways and seeing is believing. Why anyone will travel from way down yonder to way up here to witness a dog killing and seeing a man put under arrest seems far fetched to some of us. By no means can they kid the colored race into thinking they are treated more highly elsewhere than in North Carolina. All good, law-abiding folks here have no trouble regardless of color.

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more than a white would. Without a

doubt received no worse treatment.

However, the boy from New Jersey should thank his stars that he stopped where he did instead of down yonder.

J. V. WATERS.

LaGrange.

Raleigh, N. C. News & Observer

April 15, 1941

JUSTICE FREE OF EMOTION?

To the Editor: I'm a Negro college youth who awaits with interest the development of the policeman-soldier assault case. Meanwhile, it is with regret that I notice some alleged Americans such as the writer of a letter to the editor which appeared in this paper today, a letter which is so contrary to the fair-minded principles of liberty and justice for all—the very foundation upon which our great sovereignty was founded and has thrived since its birth.

I thank God that there are only a few more white fellow-Americans who are victimized by such concentrated race hatred and division as my American sister. Evidently she wanted to publicly give vent to her emotions and personal feelings on the race question, and chose to do so when so timely an opportunity was afforded by this unfortunate assault case. I'm grateful, too, that I'm living in America and not in Germany which I feign would condone the emotions of my fellow-citizen. Perhaps she would better thrive under a dictatorial government for certainly she has given forth adequate evidence that she possesses the stuff from which dictators and tyrants grow.

I do not hate my sister-American for what she wrote. She was not to blame, I believe. When she concluded, that

blackness or w complexion may determine the person intellect and ability—the requisites of quality among humanity—or the lack of them, I knew she had not taken advantage of the educational possibilities that her very heritage makes available. I wish I had more time to write, but my work offers interference. However, God Bless America!

FRANCIS P. PENN.

Raleigh.

Raleigh, N. C. News & Observer

April 16, 1941

***DEMOCRATIC VIEW.**

To the Editor: Congratulations on your democratic view of that disgusting incident between Officer Canady and the citizen-soldier Harold Daniels. Apparently, Raleigh policemen are living up to their reputation of capably enforcing the law; however, I do not believe their methods of dispensing the law is in keeping with our modern civilization, and even could be termed "barbaric."

While this is not a question of black and white or khaki versus blue and silver, those few in the minority, who evidently are in favor of another Civil War in this country in spite of our present appeal for national unity throughout the

two hemispheres, should acquaint themselves with our Constitution and those other doctrines upon which this nation was founded. If this should not prove convincing, then I might suggest they review "Gone With The Wind." All of these failing to impress upon them our equality, then perhaps it would be best for this country, and for the rabbles, that they should be given a one-way ticket to the land of the dictators and anarchist.

We must remember that because our Negro is inferior in some respects today, he is that which we chose to make him. Shall we educate him to the point where he will be useful and beneficial, or shall we restrain his God-given personalities?

A. L. GRIFFIN.

Rocky Mount.

15-1941

POLICE BRUTALITY

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Crippled Newshawk Beaten by D.C. Cops; NAACP Plans Fight

legal committee.

WASHINGTON
Branding the attack a typical example of unprovoked and vicious police brutality, the NAACP Monday accused two members of the Metropolitan Police Department of an attack upon Milton McNair of 801 N Street, Northwest, crippled newshawk.

McNair, who has only one leg and walks with a crutch and cane, charged in a complaint to the NAACP that he was standing on L Street near Seventh between 6th and 9 p.m. Friday, talking with a stranger, when two policemen approached.

As the stranger ran up an alley, the officers questioned McNair as to the man's identity and, according to Mr. McNair, became abusive when he said he did not know the man.

Is Brutally Beaten

Accusing him of withholding information, the officers beat him with their fists and night sticks, he said, and when he fell to the pavement they kicked him in the ribs and abdomen until he became unconscious, later recovering in a patrol wagon where one of the officers accused him of being drunk.

At Freedmen's Hospital where his wounds were dressed, stitches were required to close lacerations of the scalp and beside his nose.

According to Dr. C. Herbert Marshall, president of the NAACP, and Dr. Joseph N. Dodson, who examined the complainant on Monday, both eyes were blacked, and there were numerous cuts around the head and face and bruises and abrasions on the chest and abdomen.

Puts Finger on Cops

Following Mr. McNair's report of the alleged assault to the NAACP, he was taken to Precinct No. 2 by Prof. W. Robert Ming, Jr., and Wendell M. McConnell, attorney, members of the

NAACP Plans Action

Mr. McNair, who supports his wife and three children by selling newspapers, denies that he had been drinking or disorderly and his sworn statement of the attack was filed with Inspector Maurice Collins, chairman of the police trial board.

Mr. Ming issued the following statement on Tuesday:

"Mr. Milton McNair has appealed to the District branch of the NAACP for assistance."

That organization and the AFRO-AMERICAN are determined to use every means available to secure justice for this latest victim of the brutality regularly exhibited by Washington police officers in dealing with our people.

"Any person having any information with regard to this matter is requested to come to the AFRO-AMERICAN office at Eleventh and S Streets, Northwest, at once. The identity of such persons will be kept secret and all information will be treated confidentially."

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

FILE PROTEST ON COP KICKING MOVIE PATRON

OCT 11 1941
Citizens Organize To Halt
Police Brutality In
Warren, Ark.

WARREN, Ark.—The unending wave of police brutality in Arkansas continued this week with the kicking of Mrs. O. Z. Jackson, well known member of the Mount Carmel Baptist church, by Jess Crawford, white, local police officer, in front of a theatre where Mrs. Jackson stood in line waiting to purchase a ticket. She was accompanied by her small daughter.

Negro patrons of the theatre had been ordered by the police officer to form a line in the alley adjacent to the theatre building and there wait until the sidewalk had been cleared of white patrons.

Mrs. Jackson came up to the theatre unaware of the order, and when told to "get into the alley" she sought an understanding of the command which resulted in a vicious kick that sent her sprawling on the concrete walk.

Upon the request of Ruel Jackson, husband of the victim and a mill worker, the Committee on Ne-

gro Organization called upon the Warren N.A.A.C.P., of which Jackson is a member, to send a committee to the mayor and chief of police.

TRIBUNE
Philadelphia, Pa.

Would Save D.C. Money By Shooting Jailed Boy

WASHINGTON, (AP)—Something new in police activities was brought to light here last week when Roland Lindsey, colored youth charged with rape, told the court that while he was confined in a police station awaiting trial, an officer attached to the station walked up to his cell, pulled a pistol and fired at the prisoner.

Policeman Arnold F. Jackson, 28, of Number 1 precinct is being held in \$10,000 bond set by Judge Walter J. Casey in police court on a charge of assault with a dangerous weapon. He was held for grand jury action and was sent to the district jail, pending further action.

Lindsey, who is 19, testified in court that he was reclining on his bunk about 9 a.m. on July 23 when the policeman appeared and fired at him through the bars.

"SAVE CITY MONEY"

Lindsey was the first of three witnesses to testify. He was calm as he told his story and spoke clearly. According to his testimony, a policeman came to the barred door in the corridor leading to the cell block and said if he had his way he would shoot Lindsey and save the city a lot of money.

Then, Lindsey said, as he pointed to the defendant, Jackson stepped from behind the other officer and fired. Lindsey said there was exchange of words prior to the shooting.

The bullet struck the wall about two inches over his head and the flattened pellet fell beside him on the bunk. When he picked it up, it was still warm, he told the court.

SHOT SCARED HIM

Robert Wright, colored, another prisoner, backed up Lindsey's story and added that he was in the adjoining cell dozing and "the shot scared me." He added that the complainant handed him the bullet thru the bars of the cell doors and that it was flattened with a sliver broken from it.

He returned it to Lindsey. The latter said he gave it to the jailer and didn't see it again.

Inspector Maurice Collins testified that he investigated the case and found marks on the bars six feet from the floor. There was also a mark on the cell wall, he told the court. Then he exhibited a sash from a window opposite the cell where Lindsey was being held. There was a dent in the door's wooden frame and the inspector said he was "not in a position to say what's in there as he brought it to the attention of the court.

Although this is supposed to have happened last July during the Brown police regime, nothing was heard of it until the recent hearings.

Washington Post
Washington, D. C.

Court Decries Brutality of Special Police

Judge George D. Nelson denounced the city's special policemen for recurrent brutality yesterday in Police Court in dismissing drunk and disorderly charges brought by a special officer against Roosevelt Foster, 24, Negro, of 1407 W Street Nov 2 1941

"It seems as though the special policemen make a habit of beating up defendants," he declared after Foster had appeared in court with his head swathed in bandages.

The arresting special officer, Thomas R. Parks, Negro, told the court that Foster had struck him when he told the man to stop blocking the aisle in a Fourteenth Street restaurant. He related that he had subdued Foster with a billy.

The judge pointed out that Parks didn't have a mark on him, with the exception of two light scratches on his wrist Nov 2 1941

He said that the regular Metropolitan Police officers were not addicted to such action, and added that he did not see why "in two-

thirds of the cases arrested by special policemen the defendants are beaten up unmercifully."
"I don't think this situation should be tolerated," he declared. "This case is dismissed."

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Suspend Two D.C. Cops OCT 4 1941 Pending Attack Probes

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Three white Washington policemen were suspended when they reported for duty on Saturday while officers, led by the new police chief, Major Edward J. Kelly, investigated the story of Roland J. Lindsey, 19, attack suspect, that he was fired on in his cell by one of the trio on July 23.

One of the policemen, Arnold F. Jackson, 28, appointed to the force in 1936, was charged with assault with a dangerous weapon and held in default of \$10,000 bail. The others, George W. Bromley and B. F. Knapp, were suspended without charges. OCT 4 1941

Lindsey was arrested on July 21, and charged with assault with intent to kill in connection with an attack on a couple in Patterson woods, in northeast Washington.

The youth told a story of being first shot at in his cell the night of July 23, two days after his arrest, and again the day after he had been placed in a first precinct cell for an interview with his attorneys, Richard R. Atkinson and James (Pete) Tyson.

D. A. Gets Story

The story was carried to the district attorney's office and from there to Major Kelly. The complaint, denied by the three suspended officers, is as follows:

Lindsey was lying on his bunk between 9 and 10 p.m., when he observed Private Bromley standing at his cell door, which faced the entrance to the cell block.

"If I had my way I would shoot you and save the District some money," Bromley said, according to Lindsey. OCT 4 1941

Then Officer Jackson, wagon-man on the patrol car driven by Bromley, came up and fired his revolver. Lindsey was not hit. Officer Knapp is thought to have been near the cell as he had charge of the cell block.

Shortly afterwards the lieutenant in charge of the precinct that night came in and asked what the loud noise was. He was told by Knapp

and Bromley: "It was just a firecracker...a joke."

Lindsey was questioned by investigators in the District jail last week and taken to the cell where the shooting was alleged to have taken place. There Inspector Maurice Collins, in charge of the investigation, is reported to have found a mark in a cell bar which may have been made by a bullet. In a window frame on the wall part of a bullet was lodged. The frame was taken to headquarters as evidence.

Major Kelly reported that Lindsey had told of another fragment of a bullet which he had picked up and shown to the police that night. Lindsey said that Knapp and Bromley forced him to give up the piece.

District E. M. Curran authorized the arrest of Jackson and advised that the case be taken before the grand jury. On January 24, 1939, Jackson was charged with driving while under the influence of liquor and with conduct prejudicial to the good of the department. He was fined \$10. Knapp, who is 46, joined the force in 1919 and has been at the First Precinct for 16 years. Bromley, 31, was appointed to the force in 1937.

Tyson and Atkinson will defend Lindsey when he comes to trial September 29.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

TELLS STORY OF GA. CHAIN GANG BARBARITIES

OCT 4 1941
Chicagoan Relates His Experiences During 55-Month Sentence

After 55 months in a Georgia prison camp, Frank Bruce Keating, former Chicago truck driver, had much to tell of the barbarities of the Georgia prison system on his return to the city.

Keating, an ex-United States Marine, was sentenced after having

OCT 4 1941
been convicted of manslaughter charges after his car accidentally killed a hitch-hiker on highway 41 near Marietta, Ga., in March, 1937.

After serving two and a half months in Cobb county prison camp, Keating was transferred to State Highway Camp No. 15 in Bald Mountain, where he described conditions as being "worse than you can imagine."

Keating recited having seen three Negro prisoners slain by one guard, Fred Lewis. None of these killings, he said, were investigated so far as he was able to learn, and Warden A. C. Mays, he declared, seemed unconcerned about the habitual drunkenness and brutality of the guards.

On one day, March 17, this year, Keating reported that Lewis killed two men on the pretext they had attempted to escape.

One of the youths, Fred "Specs" Hammond, of Savannah, was disliked by the guard, who Keating said was so illiterate he could not fill out his daily report sheet.



OCT 4 1941
F. B. Keating

The youth had been sent to prison on charges brought against him by persons anxious to break him of a habit of forging checks. He was not of a criminal character, Keating said.

Hammond, Keating said, had become ill as a result of the poor food and had already used up his two permissions granted prisoners daily to use the toilet. When he appealed to Lewis for permission to go a third time, he was refused.

Unable to remain at work any longer, he left his job. When threatened that he would be shot if he did not return to his job immediately, he told the guard, Keating said, to go ahead and shoot.

The guard did, Keating related, and the youth died instantly. Another prisoner, Walter Jenkins, was so emotionally unnerved by the cold blooded murder, that three hours later, after brooding over it, he went berserk and was killed by the same guard, according to Keating.

The March before that, Keating said, Lewis killed another prisoner, Fred Stewart, whom he struck over the head with a club because he wasn't "working fast enough."

After being struck, Keating said that Stewart picked up a shovel to protect himself and when he refused to put it down, Lewis fired. The prisoner died three hours later.

Of the 173 prisoners in the camp, Keating said 120 of them were Negroes.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Daily Times
December 6, 1941
DADE COUNTY SPEAKS

A person whose knowledge of Georgians extended no further than an awareness of the views of Governor Eugene Talmadge, might suppose that a man tried on a charge of having caused a Negro prisoner's death in a convict camp "sweat box" would be speedily exonerated. But in Dade County, Georgia, the brutal treatment of twenty-two Negroes by the white warden of a prison camp has been dealt with as an example of barbarism which is not to be condoned. A Superior Court jury sitting at Trenton, Georgia, on Tuesday, required only forty minutes of deliberation to find former Warden C. A. Jacobson guilty of voluntary manslaughter. He was sentenced to serve three years in prison. Until his motion for a new trial is heard on January 5, Jacobson will be at liberty under bond.

As punishment for what he called a sit-down strike, Warden Jacobson caused twenty-two Negro prisoners to be confined in a "sweat box" that was only about seven feet wide and seven feet long. Prisoner Lewis Gordon died.

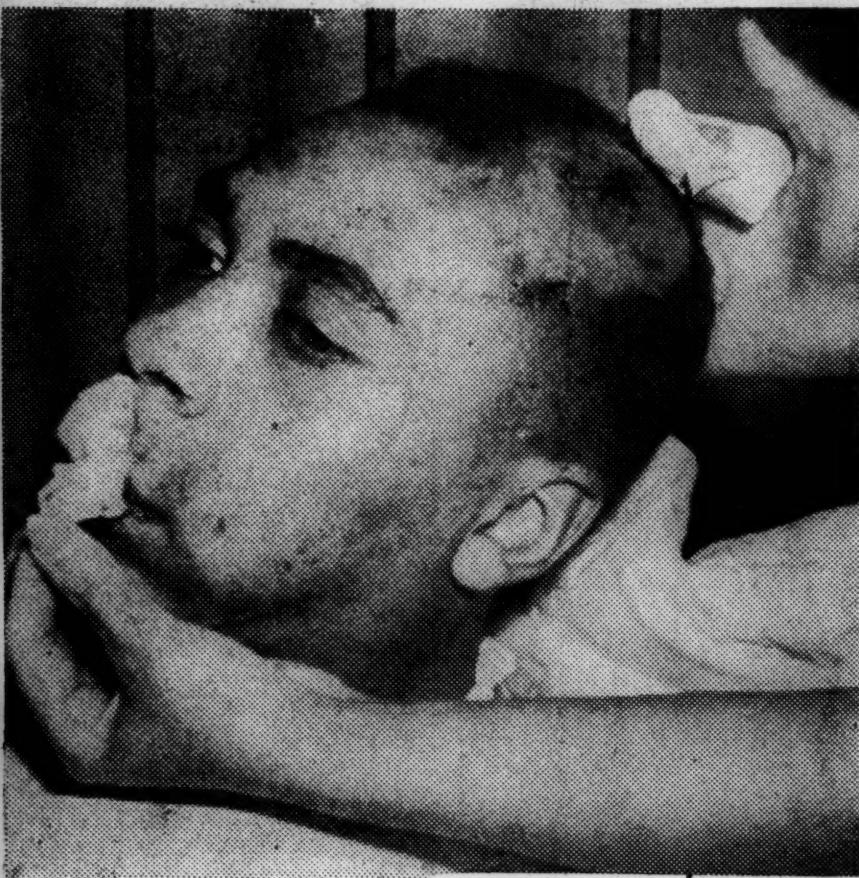
Several of the other prisoners fainted while in the box. As a result of this brutality, a group of Georgia legislators inquired into the disciplinary measures adopted in the prison camps. Three of the legislators recommended that confinement be displaced by a return to the lash, a recommendation which happily has been rejected.

At the Jacobson trial it was testified that the "hot house" is approved punishment in Georgia. In at least one county, it is now clear that confining twenty-two persons in a seven-by-seven box-like structure is not approved. In the administration of a Governor who holds that "good people" sometimes flog their fellows with justification, there is, of course, no assurance that a convicted former warden will be punished for having tortured fatally a Negro prisoner. But if Jacobson fails to serve the sentence imposed upon him, the people of Dade County will not be responsible.

15-1941

Raleigh, N. C. News & Observer
April 7, 1941

'Abrasions on The Head'



Negro Citizens say Treatment "Inhuman"; Asked Police- man's Suspension

Suspension of the patrolman who blackjacked Private Harold Daniels, and "tried to wring loose" after the Negro soldier, Saturday at the bus station was asked by the Negro Citizens' Committee yesterday on grounds that his treatment was "unwarranted and inhuman."

Writing directly to R. C. Powell, Commissioner of Public Safety, the committee said: "After a careful investigation, we find that this assault was unwarranted and inhuman. We are, therefore, asking the immediate suspension of Patrolman Canady until this matter has been investigated by your office.

"Because of the sentiment which has been aroused over this brutal assault by an officer in your department we are forced to make this request in the interest of the good name of our city."

Private Daniels was struck over the head and in the mouth by Patrolman N. E. Canady late Saturday afternoon at the bus station following an argument between Private Daniels and another soldier

on one side, and a group of Strop taxi drivers on the other.

Patrolman Canady's version of the incident was that the Negro soldier, attached to the 76th Coast Artillery, Battery C, 1st Battalion, Fort Bragg, was "swinging" a knife at the Negro soldier, Saturday at the bus station, but omitted stating that Canady administered the "abrasions."

From his bed in St. Agnes Hospital, the soldier said yesterday that he was not swinging a knife at the policeman. He said he and his companion, together with a girl, started to get in a Strop taxi behind the station.

"The driver told my friend to get out; he wasn't carrying no niggers," the blackjacked soldier said. "I said to my friend, 'Come on, let's don't have any trouble,' but one word led to another.

"About six other taxi drivers got around us, and one of them pulled out a knife. Then I pulled out a knife I had, to protect us. About that time one of the drivers called for a policeman and when I saw him coming over I put my knife up."

Daniels said the policeman came over and grabbed his belt. "I said, 'Am I under arrest?'" the Negro replied. "He said 'yes,' so I said, 'Then turn loose, I'm not running away.'

He said he wouldn't turn loose and the others (the drivers) kept egging him. They said: "Hit the nigger."

Continuing the story from his hospital bed, the soldier said he told and shipped them over the country. Policeman Canady that the drivers had begun the quarrel and that one of them had pulled a knife on him, but that the policeman persisted in holding him.

"So I tried to pull away. He (Canady) knocked me down twice and I didn't try to get up again, figuring I would just get hurt some more."

Witnesses said the soldier was lying in a "pool" of blood when a patrol car arrived for him. He was

That's how the official police report reads on Pvt. Harold Daniels, whose head was laid open by Patrolman N. E. Canady's blackjack at the Bus Station Saturday. The soldier is shown here after the dentist finished with him yesterday. The roots of two broken upper teeth and a part of his jawbone have been removed.

laid on the floor of the car, rather than the seat, and driven to the hospital, where he declined assistance from police and was helped out by a nurse.

A 2 1-2-inch gash on the head and a bruised and cut upper lip received immediate attention. The stubs of two broken-off upper front teeth were removed yesterday, together with a portion of the upper jawbone.

The official police report on Daniels' injury said he received "abrasions on the head" about 5:05 p. m. at the bus station, but omitted stating that Canady administered the "abrasions."

Police said they would charge Daniels with disorderly conduct and assault with a deadly weapon upon an officer when he is able to leave the hospital. Canady, the object of the alleged assault, was unscathed.

The letter from the Negro Citizens' Committee was signed by Chairman J. W. Yeargin and Secretary W. H. Peace.

The committee represents 21 organizations, including ministers, women, scouts, voters, fraternal, social and professional clubs.

Efforts yesterday to get Strop taxi drivers to talk about the incident bore no fruit except a statement from one that cab drivers customarily carry knives.

Private Daniels said his knife was an ordinary pocket knife, not the "switchblade" type often used for fighting. He said he had never been convicted of a crime in his home city, Camden, N. J.

POLICE BRUTALITY

Raleigh, N. C. News & Observer
April 7, 1941

Of National Importance

It would be hard to find in America anywhere a sadder, more serious event than that here on Saturday in which a New Jersey Negro private soldier was so badly blackjacked by a Raleigh policeman that the Raleigh police themselves felt it necessary to take him to the hospital. The event may have looked like the end of a brawl to those who defend the policeman. It looked like police brutality to the only unconcerned witness who has reported it. Whatever it was it was an event calculated to create angry antagonisms in a nation which seeks the strength of national unity.

By the many thousands Northern soldiers, white and Negro, are coming to the camps of the South. They are welcomed by a South which has shown itself in every counting as most concerned for a vigorous American defense effort. Yet the sad thing is that one such event as occurred in Raleigh can threaten more damage to good feeling than all the patriotic orators can create.

It is a good thing for all concerned that the same policeman who blackjacked the soldier has charged him with disorderly conduct and an assault upon an officer with a deadly weapon. This is not to say that the Negro was guilty. He may or he may not have been. But his trial, conducted in recognition of the importance of the case to the whole national defense effort, should provide

opportunity for the trial of both the soldier and the policeman, and not only of a private's brawling but of a policeman's brutality.

The only impartial witness so far

heard is a white North Carolina mother with two boys of her own in the service. She saw the occurrence from a little way off. She said: "He wore my country's uniform and I think he should have received better treatment. I have two sons in the service and I know if anybody treated them like that, I would be willing to kill him. It was just because his skin was black."

Thousands of other mothers may be expected to feel the same way. They are entitled to know that the South which receives their sons as they go to the service of their country is a land where decency and justice prevail for all. Upon Raleigh's handling of this case much of the national morale in the old difficulties of sectional feeling may depend.

Nobody can judge this case in advance. It would be foolish to suggest that a private soldier on leave could not have violently misbehaved himself. This soldier may have done so. It would not be incredible though it is disputed—if he swung a knife. But it would be equally silly to suggest in advance of evidence that all the mauling this soldier was subjected to—a Northern Negro soldier in an argument with Southern white taxi-drivers who called a Southern white policeman—was certainly based upon the minimum force necessary by an officer in upholding law and order. (A policeman would not even seem to be using a blackjack with efficient brutality who has to both knock open a scalp and knock out teeth.)

It is important, however, that there be not the slightest question of whitewash or cover-up in the hearing on this matter which will attend the trial of the Negro soldier. He is not on trial alone. The policeman is on trial, too—and Raleigh and North Carolina and the South. Soldiers, of course, must be made to behave. But the country also must be assured that the South to which so many

of the country's sons are sent does not tolerate Nazi methods in dealing in a brown shirt or a blue coat. Jack brutality is resorted to by a man fathers—have a right to a faith in its faith and a duty to do it wise, fairly, whether it occurs in Raleigh or Rotterdam. The defenders of decency and justice in this case has a job to do for the country in building that in democracy—and their mothers and do for the country in building that makes no difference whether black-

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Negro Beaten By Police Faces Jail for 'Assault'

B'klyn Junkman on Trial Friday for 'Assault';
Court Drops Charge of 'Larceny'; Negro
Congress, ILD Fights Brutal Bias

APR 17 1941

Barney Brannagan, 225-pound Brooklyn officer of the law, with his hefty brother-in-uniform, William Long, grasped 45-year-old Lindsey Weaver, 110-pound Negro junkman, by the collar of his ragged coat and beat his head so furiously that Brannagan's hardwood nightstick broke in two. The officers then paused, hugging one in his arm. Even though they had been discarded as worthless, they would bring a few cents.

He had gone only a short distance when he met two policemen.

"Say, boy, where'd you get them tires?"

He wasn't really scared. Everybody knew he tried to make an honest living by picking up old junk and selling it. APR 17 1941

COPS GET TOUGH

He told them where he had found the tires. He was a "black liar," they swore, and, shoving him between them, they took him back to 36 Clayer Place. Burly officer Brannagan started to the house to inquire. He met a Negro man, who said his name was William King, coming out with more rubbish for the refuse heap. King assured the cop that Weaver had been within his rights in taking the tires. King said he'd thrown the stuff out himself. The officer leered.

He returned to Weaver, whose collar was in the bulldog grip of officer Long. Brannagan told the junkman that he'd "come clean" if he knew what was good for him.

"But I told you I found these old tires. Didn't this man here say he threw them out? I—" He's telling the truth, officer," King said.

When King started again to speak —wham-m-m-m!—and he fell back from a blow across the face. It was when he tried to defend himself that the junkman, resembling a dwarf between the towering cops, learned what it means for a Negro like him to dispute the "law" in Brooklyn. APR 17 1941

When he came to, in the Cumberland Hospital, he found that he had been charged with felonious assault and possession of a dangerous weapon. Stealing auto tires? No! There was no charge of larceny, but one of the policemen had sworn that he had found a penknife near the place where the little junkman had been assaulted.

Weaver was transferred to Kings County Hospital. Lack of medical attention brought protests from the National Negro Congress. The Brooklyn Council of the Congress retained a lawyer affiliated with the International Labor Defense to work with a well-known Brooklyn Negro attorney.

SIXTH CASE APR 17 1941

Policemen sat menacingly at mass meetings where the Congress proved "an organized campaign of terror directed against the Negro people" was afoot. Policemen took notes when speakers reminded citizens that this case was the sixth within the year under the 88th police precinct rule of Captain Jones, a Texan.

Weaver was now in the Rikers Island Hospital. The National Negro Congress led in raising the \$1,000 bail for his release.

The original charge of "felonious assault" had been reduced to "simple assault," when the facts in the case were first related to Justices Frank Oliver, Alfred Hoffman and Irving Ben Cooper in General Sessions. Officers Brannagan and Long were contradicted so often and so completely that one of the judges, Irving Ben Cooper, voted for acquittal.

Justices Oliver and Hoffman, however, seemingly angered at the cops for muffing a good chance, reprimanded the district attorney for bringing a poorly prepared case and insisted that it be reopened. It was—on April 8. This time there was excellent team work.

The charge of larceny of tires had been dropped as too ridiculous.

So on Friday this sick man, made sick by two policemen's clubs and guns, will be sentenced. For beat-

align, N. C., News & Observer
April 9, 1941

SOLDIER AND POLICEMAN.

To the Editor: I have just finished reading the account of a Negro soldier being blackjacked by a patrolman here Saturday. I would like to add these few words.

I see no reason for excusing an impudent Negro's behavior just because he is wearing a uniform. I am not upholding the patrolman's brutality. However, I can see where a Negro could provoke him until he forgot his own strength.

There is too much leniency being shown to Negroes. —
Morning Star, Ala. News
April 27, 1941

Let's Have No More Of This

A letter in the "Voice of the People" column on this page gives the defendant's side of the story in the case in Recorder's Court last Wednesday involving a Negro who was shot by an employe of the City Pound in an altercation over the seizure of a dog. The Negro, Nelson Hogan, was charged with disorderly conduct, and Judge Martin fined him \$1 plus \$1 court costs, the minimum amount, saying that he had "suffered enough" by having been shot.

We are glad to publish the letter, but we must controvert the writer's implication that *The News* failed to give a fair account of the testimony in Hogan's behalf. While the report of the case did not give the testimony for the defense in as much detail as this letter does, the account stated every essential fact in the evidence that this letter contains. It said, for example, that the defense produced more than a half dozen witnesses who testified "the entire altercation occurred on the Negro's property and was provoked when two Negro helpers on the dog catcher wagon began striking Hogan

with sticks after an argument over efforts to place his dog in the pound wagon." It said also that while the prosecution contended Hogan called to his wife to go in the house and get his rifle, and that he was shot by H. E. Stokes, pound employe, after he had started into the house, Hogan himself testified that he did not even see Stokes until after he had been shot. Again, the letter makes the point that Hogan was shot in the back and arm, whereas our account said he was shot in the arm and shoulder; but we cannot see that there is any material difference in these statements. After all, the shoulder is a part of the back.

We devote space to this review of the case for two reasons. The first is that, as a newspaper, we feel we should show that we did give both sides of the testimony fairly, and as fully as necessary for adequate news coverage.

The second reason is that this case de-

serves commendation for instructing employees of the City Pound that there must be no repetition of this affair.

lic's attention, since this regrettable shooting was an incident of a kind that should not be tolerated by city officials, no matter who was to blame for starting the altercation. There is no excuse for the use of any kind of weapon by City Pound employes in their work. The catching of a dog is certainly too trivial a matter to call for gunplay. It is hard to imagine why any employe of the City Pound should carry a pistol, or be authorized by law to carry one.

In the performance of his duty, as Mayor Cooper Green has said, he should call the police and let them handle the matter. That sensible way, and Mayor Green de-

OHIO PASTOR

**BADLY BEATEN BY
GEORGIA COPS**

Due West, S. C.—Rev. B. J. Glover, pastor of Mt. Lebanon A.M.E. church, was beaten, threatened with lynching and thrown on the chain gang because police officers resented his attitude.

On being transferred from Cincinnati, Ohio, to the pastorate of this Southern church, on October 15 Reverend Glover went into the Highway Patrol office to get a South Carolina driver's license.

The officer in charge asked to see his old license and noting they had been issued in the state of Ohio began to ask questions about what he was doing in South Carolina and how long he was staying.

NOV 13 1941

When the minister had answered all questions the officer remarked: "YOU MUST TAKE YOUR HAT OFF WHEN TALKING TO A WHITE MAN IN THE SOUTH. ANOTHER OFFICER NEARBY SAID "WE WILL HAVE TO TEACH THAT NIGGER A LESSON", AND STRUCK REVEREND GLOVER."

The young minister attempted to defend himself and was immediately covered by five men who beat him.

The officers then took the bleeding minister to the police station and without rendering any medical aid or even the formality of a trial, sentenced him to 90 days on the chain gang for resisting an officer.

On arrival at the chain gang stockade, the minister was again beaten and although badly bleeding and spitting blood, he was forced to work.

NOV 13 1941

His father, Rev. B. J. Glover, Sr., presiding elder of the Greenville district, heard of the incident and rushed to the police station and was informed that his son could be released upon the payment of a \$300 fine, \$100 each on charges of resisting arrest, hitting an officer and disorderly conduct.—Chicago Defender.

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

**Warden Upheld
In Striking of
Negro Convict**

DEC 7 1941

**Investigator Says Black-
jack Blows Were Justi-
fied in Altercation.**

By The Associated Press.

State Prison Commissioner Roy Mann said yesterday an investigation had shown that R. R. Griffeth, warden of the Oconee county convict camp, was justified in striking a Negro prisoner with a blackjack.

Dr. E. H. Kenimer, of Bishop, the camp physician, said he did not think the Negro was injured seriously in a scuffle with the warden and Guard J. C. Adams.

An official of the American Prison Association earlier in the week made public a letter saying he had received complaints that a prisoner was mistreated.

Prober Reports.

A report of an investigation was made by J. Glenn Cobb, an inspector for the State Prison and Parole Commission.

This said the prisoner, Charles Roberson, serving a life term for murder, was put in solitary confinement November 12 for refusing to work. He was released nine days later after promising to behave himself.

The inspector said that on November 26 Roberson again refused to work and began to struggle when Warden Griffeth tried to put him back in solitary confinement.

Attempted Escape.

In the scuffle, Cobb said, Griffeth's shirt sleeve was torn off and the warden struck the prisoner three times with a blackjack. Adams came to the aid of the warden but the prisoner got away from them. The guard pursued him in a car and recaptured him near the Macon-Athens highway, about 300 yards from the camp. He was placed in solitary and Dr. Kenimer was called, Cobb said.

The physician reported that he found lacerations on the prisoner's forehead above the eye but they were not very deep. He added the skin was broken on the top of Roberson's head and on the left side of his head. Also the third finger of his right hand was fractured.

On visiting the prisoner again on December 5, the doctor said

he found the wounds were almost healed.

Mann said that commission records showed the Negro, who was sentenced from Wayne county, had been reported several times previously for misconduct.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Officer Again

**On Trial In
Torture Case**

NOV 13 1941
**Quintar South
Testifies In
Federal Court**

W. F. Sutherland, Atlanta policeman, went on trial in federal court a second time Wednesday, charged with torturing 16-year-old Quintar South to obtain a burglary confession from him in 1940.

The case resulted in a mistrial in federal court last February. Sutherland was acquitted on a similar charge in Fulton criminal court prior to the U. S. Court trial.

For the second time in the district court, young South Wednesday told of his arrest by Sutherland and his partner, Officer M. R. Dodd, and of his being charged with entering the gymnasium of old Clark College and stealing athletic materials. Sutherland was accused of taking South into the fingerprinting department at City Police Headquarters, slapping him at length and finally burning him on the left forearm and neck with a hot electric tacking iron, forcing him to confess falsely to the alleged burglary.

NOV 13 1941

First witness on the stand Wednesday was F. Bernard, assistant to Captain Seabrooks of the Identification Bureau, who testified as to the arrangement of rooms and materials in the department.

U. S. District Attorney Lawrence Camp, who is personally conducting the Government's case, assisted by his aide, Raymond W. Martin, clashed frequently with Clint W. Hager, defense counsel, over admission of evidence including the photographer's tacking iron, pictures of South's burned body and the identification bureau at police headquarters.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

**Ohio Pastor
Is Beaten By
Georgia Cops**

NOV 15 1941
DUE WEST, S. C. — Rev. B. J. Glover, pastor of Mt. Lebanon A.M.E. church, was beaten, threatened with lynching and thrown on the chain gang because police officers resented his attitude.

On being transferred from Cincinnati, Ohio, to the pastorate of this Southern church, on October 15 Reverend Glover went into the Highway Patrol office to get a South Carolina driver's license.

The officer in charge asked to see his old license and noting they had been issued in the state of Ohio began to ask questions about what he was doing in South Carolina and how long he was staying.

When the minister had answered all questions the officer remarked: "You must take your hat off when talking to a white man in the South." Another officer nearby said, "We will have to teach that nigger a lesson," and struck Reverend Glover.

The young minister attempted to defend himself and was immediately covered by five men who beat him.

NOV 15 1941

The officers then took the bleeding minister to the police station and without rendering any medical aid or even the formality of a trial, sentenced him to 90 days on the chain gang for resisting an officer.

On arrival at the chain gang stockade, the minister was again beaten and although badly bleeding and spitting blood, he was forced to work.

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15-1941

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Poll Tax Justice In New York

Two instances of exceptional brutality against Negro Americans, as reported in yesterday's Daily Worker, indicate that the war hysteria is intensifying lynch justice against the Negro people.

In Atlanta, Georgia, a 16-year-old Negro boy, Quintar South, was tortured with a hot iron in order to force him to confess to a burglary he didn't commit. In Brooklyn, New York, Lindsey Weaver, was wantonly slugged and shot three times by policemen who had them in their custody on a frame-up theft charge. **FEB 21 1941**

The very fact that one of these crimes took place in New York—considered the most progressive state in the Union—shows that the unity which President Roosevelt is trying to set up in the country is a unity based on the policies of the poll tax dictatorships in the deep South. **FEB 21 1941**

It is already notorious that the hypocritical "defense" program is increasing discrimination against Negroes in the armed forces and in the "defense" industries. But these two cases show that it is intensifying the lynch justice which Negroes have always been victims of in capitalist civilian life.

The actions, led by the National Negro Congress in Brooklyn, and by progressive forces in Atlanta, should be energetically supported by all fair-minded citizens, whose civil liberties are also vitally at stake. At the same time, the Weaver and South cases are sharp reminders that the fight for the passage of the anti-lynching and anti-poll tax bills should be taken up with renewed vigor during this session of Congress.

DAILY WORLD
Atlanta, Georgia

POLICE BRUTALITY

A Disappointing Result

FEB 21 1941

THE INABILITY of a federal grand jury after thirty hours of deliberation to reach a verdict in the case of the United States vs. M. F. Sutherland cannot be anything but a sore disappointment to Atlantans of both races anxious to see justice in this case prevail.

A big issue was at stake in this case. It was an issue that a nation which is now rapidly preparing itself to once again defend democracy, has too long allowed to go unchallenged. Particularly has this been true in the South.

In this section but slight regard is held by some police officers for the civil rights of those unfortunates who chance to fall into their custody. The bill of rights, won through such great sacrifice by the founders of this nation is disregarded. The Constitution to many of these officers is a piece of paper, whose sacred guarantees are not applicable to residents of the particular section which they patrol.

FEB 21 1941

This attitude of some Atlanta police officers was the real issue on trial in the Sutherland case. It is an issue that needs a clear-cut and forthright decision. This kind of decision was fought for with unrelenting force by Assistant United States District Attorney Raymond W. Martin and his aides. That the members of the jury could not see eye to eye in rendering it certainly cannot be charged to this Southern-born two-fisted prosecutor.

Judge Marvin E. Underwood was left no alternative but to declare a mistrial after a jury that had listened for eight days to a preponderance of evidence, could not agree as to the guilt or innocence of the defendant.

It is to be hoped that the Government will not abandon prosecution of this important issue, as is done in so many trials where the jury becomes deadlocked. Costly as it will be, another jury should be selected, the witnesses called back and the trial held over again.

FEB 21 1941

The very fact that the initial trial was held should be viewed as a victory for those anxious to see police brutality end. There can be no doubt that the inconveniences that Officer Sutherland has undergone thus far will serve as a strong deterrent to others who in the past have exercised little restraint in the treatment of prisoners in their custody.

Covington, Ga., News

March 13, 1941

Testimony of Prison Officials Heard by Group

Probe Is No Reflection on
County, Spokesman
Says.

**COUNTY OFFICIALS
TESTIFY BEFORE**

Marvin A. Allison, Gwinnett County; H. B. Smith, Barrow County; W. R. Bleas, Brooks County; Ben T. Willoughby, Clinch County, and Olin Sheppard, of Heard County, members of the investigating group arrived at the camp, on the outskirts of the City of Covington, about noon and spent the entire afternoon in taking testimony from persons that might throw light on the alleged mistreatment of prisoners.

The probe was started several days ago when Mr. Allison, Mr. Willoughby and Mr. Sheppard entered a resolution in the Legislature demanding that conditions be investigated.

In demanding the investigation the Legislators stated that on an inspection trip to the State prison, Tattnal, located at Reidsville, they found "Henry Woodward, a Negro, in pitiful condition from having his feet frozen to such an extent that one foot would have to be amputated and part of the toes on the other removed."

They said that they were informed at Tattnal that the Negro, under a charge of disobedience, was ordered by the camp warden, Joe Walton, placed in "a place of punishment called the 'dog house' or 'hole'" on Monday morning in the early part of January, 1941, and kept there without heat or sufficient clothing to keep warm until the following Saturday night.

The Negro they said was removed from the Newton County camp about March 1 and placed in the hospital at Tattnal.

The demand for the investigation and the allegations set forth brought an immediate denial from Dr. S. L. Waites, mayor of Covington and prominent physician.

Dr. Waites refuted the charges that the Negro had been mistreated and declared that the Negro had tortured himself in an attempt to escape from work. He said that an investigation disclosed that Woodward had brushed his feet with turpentine and kerosene until they became infected and gangrene developed.

He pointed out that other prisoners had tried various methods of avoiding work and in some instances had injected kerosene under the skin causing large sores to form.

The investigators declined to divulge the content of the transcribed testimony taken Wednesday afternoon but one member of the

group did say that there was "a great deal of conflicting testimony that would have to be sifted."

He said that the group would return to Tattnal this week end and hear further evidence before

returning their report to the House. "General recommendations will be made as to improvement in the entire prison camp system," he added.

One member of the group said that "a better system of punishment was needed in the prison camps." Mr. Smith, Barrow County Representative, introduced a bill in the Legislature which would restore the lash and the whipping post to the Georgia penal system and do away with the isolation method of punishment.

The investigators were quick to point out that the meeting here Wednesday afternoon was in no way a reflection on Newton County or the City of Covington. They said that officials of both governments had cooperated in every way possible to keep the camp running smoothly.

"This is a State matter they said," and in no way reflects discredit on the people of Newton County or any of the County officials."

Among the County officials that appeared before the investigating body were Sheriff W. G. Benton. Sheriff Benton told them that he had visited the camp on many occasions and that on every visit he found the camp to be run as "humanely as it is possible to run a convict camp."

Otis Nixon, clerk of Newton County Superior court also was questioned as was Ike Robertson, county commissioner. Mr. Robertson told the group that every time he had visited the camp, he found everything in "perfect order."

The investigators will make a report of their findings to the House within the next ten days, it was said.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

N.A.A.C.P. Seeks New Trial For Convicted Farmer

FEB 15 1941

HUGO, Okla., Feb. 13—Following the verdict of guilty and recommendation of life imprisonment in the case of W. D. Lyons, charged with the murder and burning of a white family here, Thurgood Marshall, special counsel for the NAACP and Stanley Belden, white local attorney, representing Lyons, prepared to file a motion for a new trial, and if necessary, appeal to the U. S. Supreme court.

With the Negroes and 90 per cent of the white people in the area convinced of Lyons' innocence, as evidenced by the fact that in less than a week \$360 has been raised to help defray the cost of this trial, NAACP officials announced that they had hopes of raising a defense fund of \$10,000 to continue Lyons' defense and defray cost of appeals in cases now pending in Alabama and South Carolina. Contributions should be sent to the national office of the NAACP at 69 Fifth avenue, New York City.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

SHOOTING OFFICER DEMOTED

White Montgomery Cop Assigned to Pounding Beat In Warehouse Area.

FEB 15 1941

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Feb. 13—Officer E. W. Hamilton, (white) of the Montgomery Police Department, who fired a pistol bullet into the head of Dorothy Greenwood, 13-year-old girl as she sat with her mother by an open fireplace, when he entered their home in North Montgomery several weeks ago, reportedly in search of an unnamed man who was allegedly creating a disturbance in the neighborhood—has been demoted from the rank of plainclothes detective by Police Chief Ralph King, and assigned to pounding a b—^{the railroad} warehouse area.

FEB 15 1941

Though the bullet which penetrated the girl's skull, was never removed, an operation for its removal being deemed so dangerous it might cause her death, she is recovering from the injury. Physicians at Fraternal Hospital where she has been a patient ever since the shooting, said she probably will be able to return home in another week. Officer Hamilton claimed the shot from his pistol that wounded her was fired "accidentally."

FEB 15 1941
News

Birmingham, Ala.

Capital Policeman Indicted In Shooting Of 13 Year Old Girl

FEB 16 1941

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—(P)—E. W. Hamilton, Montgomery policeman, was under indictment charging assault with intent to murder Saturday in the recent shooting of a 13-year-old Negro girl.

Hamilton described shooting of the girl as accidental at the time, saying his pistol "by some means or other went off" while he was investigating a report of a Negro carrying a gun.

The Grand Jury's report said: "A few of the officers have been too eager and quick to pull their guns and shoot while investigating complaints."

Birmingham, Ala. News
February 17, 1941

'Too Quick To Pull Guns'

The Montgomery County Grand Jury has indicted a police officer on a charge of assault to murder as a result of the shooting and wounding of a 13-year-old Negro girl last month. In its report the Grand Jury comments that "a few of the officers (of the Montgomery Police Department) have been too eager and quick to pull their guns and shoot while investigating complaints."

The officer said his pistol, "by some means or other," went off accidentally.

The Grand Jury's criticism is one that has been made at times in other cities. Only a

The Union
Cincinnati, Ohio

THE EXAMINER, THE POST AND THE UNION OF COURSE, HAVE COMMENTED UPON AND CRITICISED THE ABUSE OF POWER, NOT ONLY BY THE POLICE, BUT OFTEN BY OTHER OFFICIALS. THERE ARE EXCEPTIONS TO ALL RULES. IF THOSE IN COMMAND WOULD ONLY TEACH THEIR SUBORDINATES TO OBEY "THE GOLDEN RULE", NOT ONLY THIS CITY, BUT THIS WORLD WOULD BE A FAR BETTER PLACE, IN WHICH TO DWELL.

Raleigh, N. C. News & Observer
April 28, 1941

Spirit of the Press

EVIDENCE NOT IGNORED.

The Carolina Tribune.

It is easy to understand the wave of feeling among Negroes everywhere when word was received of the exonerating of the Raleigh policeman who was under suspension for beating a soldier. However, the opinion of most of those who witnessed the long hearing does not share that belief.

The Civil Service Commission approached the hearing in a straight-forward, impartial manner. Witnesses were allowed much more leeway than they would have had in a regular court trial, the chairman setting the keynote when he stated that they wanted any person having information to come and give it, and imploring that the race issue be kept out.

The race issue was kept out as much as is possible when a case in the South involves a white and colored person. Private Daniels was referred to throughout as "the soldier," while Officer Canady was called "the officer." The hearing throughout was conducted on the highest plane, and nowhere was there any suggestion of the "social equality" who resides at 801 N Street Northwest. Inspector Collins said he had received a written complaint from Milton McNair, a one-legged man, any bugbear that inevitably arises in most cases.

There was much conflicting testimony on both sides, and the consensus of opinion is that the true story of what took place on that Saturday afternoon was not told. The witnesses disagreed as to whether the soldier had a knife (he admitted having one), whether he threatened the officer with the knife, and the alleged beating followed (he denied this), and whether he had the knife in his hand after being struck the second time, or reached for the pocket containing it in a threatening manner (he denied this).

The prosecution sought to portray the two soldiers as coming into town with a chip on their shoulders, looking for a good time, and Private Daniels as either drunk or doped, threatening to cut

several white cab drivers and the officer. They did not succeed in presenting this complete picture.

The defense sought to portray Private Daniels as the completely innocent victim of a group of white cab drivers, who was beaten by the cop summoned by the drivers with no provocation, verbal or physical from himself, only because the cab drivers told the policeman to "hit him." They did not succeed in presenting this complete picture.

The result of the case, in the opinion of this newspaper, is to prove definitely that cases involving Negroes and whites CAN be approached and decided in a dispassionate manner, and that swift justice meets the police officer, at least in Raleigh, who unjustifiably abuses soldiers or citizens, white or black.

Washington Post

Brutality Charge Against D.C. Police Being Investigated

OCT 10 1941

An alleged case of police brutality is being investigated by police, Inspector Maurice Collins announced yesterday.

Inspector Collins said he had received a written complaint from Milton McNair, a one-legged man, any bugbear that inevitably arises in most cases.

Collins said he was standing on L Street between Seventh and Eighth Streets Northwest last Friday about 8:30 p. m. He was talking to a man, GT 1541. Two policemen approached them, and the man with whom he had been talking fled down an alley. The officers questioned the officer with the knife, and the alleged beating followed. He was taken to Freedmen's Hospital after being struck the second time, or reached for the pocket containing it in a threatening manner (he denied this).

GT 1541

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Daily World.
Atlanta, Georgia

John Biggs Says He Heard Plaintiff Slapped By Officer

Defense Counsel Produces State Court Testimony Records In Effort to Show Changed Answers

FEB 12 1941

Sixteen-year-old John Biggs, of McDonough Boulevard, who said he was Quintar South's cell mate early last year when they were held on suspicion of burglary, told an all-white jury in the United States District Court Tuesday he heard City Policeman W. F. Sutherland slap South after the officer carried the boy into a photographer's developing room at the Police Station.

Biggs declared he saw a sore spot at the base of South's neck when South came out of the developing room. After being returned to their cell, Biggs said South told him Officer Sutherland burned him on the neck and arm with photographer's drying iron. The witness said he saw the

wounds Monday, the opening day of the trial, he would prove Sutherland violated the civil rights of Quintar South by using force to obtain a burglary confession. The Government contends that the officer heated the drying iron to a red heat and then burned the youth three times to obtain a written statement.

Biggs was the third witness to take the stand Tuesday morning to testify against Policeman Sutherland who is being tried before Federal Judge Marvin E. Underwood on a three-count indictment which charges the officer with violating the "civil rights" of 16-year-old South, a former David T. Howard Junior High School student.

United States District Attorney

COLORED JURORS AVAILABLE

Two colored men are available for jury service in the United States District Court. They are Charles A. Crawford, 201 Ashby street, S. W., and Frank Wimberly, 54 Howell street.

Mr. Crawford was sworn in last October, and Mr. Wimberly was sworn in Monday. Neither of the men was chosen to try the Sutherland case.

Raymond W. Martin told the jur-

Jamerson followed Biggs to the witness stand. He claimed he did not hear Sutherland slap South, but declared he saw two red marks on South's neck when South left the developing room.

Coach Ralph Robinson of Clark University, testified he gave South and about 13 other boys several discarded uniforms several months ago. He said several sweat shirts and jerseys were among the old

Fulton Criminal Court when Officer Sutherland was acquitted of a charge of committing assault and battery on South was used by Defense Attorney Hager to show that some of South's testimony now is not the same as given at the state trial.

FEB 12 1941

The case gained prominence after South was transferred to the Juvenile Home. Interested white persons brought about an investigation which resulted in indictments being returned against Sutherland by county and federal grand juries

He was suspended from his police job but reinstated after his acquittal in the state court.

The trial will be continued this morning, starting at 10 o'clock.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Court Fines White Men For Assault

FEB 15 1941
Town Constable And Companion Found Guilty

Staff Correspondence

RALEIGH, N. C.—Two white men, one a township constable, received heavy fines in City Court here, last week, for assault on Andrew Fellows, last Christmas Eve night. Judge Paul C. West gave the constable, R. L. Jarrell, a fine of \$125 and costs and James E. Jarrell, a fine of \$50 and costs.

SCARS EXHIBITED

Defense Attorney Clint Hager asked South to show the jury the scars alleged to have been caused by the burns. During this exhibition, Lawyer Hager asked the boy Gregory, his companion, a fine about two other scars on his arm, of \$50 and costs. The case attracted much attention locally where Mr. Fellows is regarded as a law-abiding citizen



QUINTAR SOUTH

equipment given the boys.

Testimony in the case showed that South was accused of stealing a shirt from the Clark gym. Coach Robinson told the jury only jockey straps and socks were stolen from the gym.

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involved in any court action of any sort. Witnesses to his character appearing at the trial were: Captain Nathaniel Warren, acting chief of Police; the Rev. V. T. Williams, pastor of the Martin Baptist Church; C. A. Haywood, president of the Raleigh Funeral Home; Oliver Edwards; and a representative of the bottling concern where Mr. Fellows is employed.

APPEAL JUDGMENT

Both Jarrell and Gregory appealed the judgment and posted bonds of \$250 and \$125 dollars, respectively.

A third defendant in the case, Tony Javer, was acquitted when no testimony showed that he had participated in the attack. A fourth person was identified as a soldier now stationed in Wyoming.

Mr. Fellows, who appeared in court with his head still bandaged testified that his jaw was broken by a blow received from behind. He had remained in St. Agnes hospital for eighteen days.

HIT FROM BEHIND

According to the testimony of Fellows, he was walking home on East Martin Street Christmas Eve night when he was stopped by the four defendants who asked if he knew who lived in a house on the street. His answer was that he did not know and after repeating it several times turned his back to leave was hit on his head, suffering a broken jaw. En route to jail, he said, he was hit by Jarrell.

Assistant Jailer W. W. Sanders testified that it was necessary at the jail to warn Gregory that, if he hit Fellows, he would be locked up. Fellows, the jailer said was pleading for a doctor all the while and it was his advice that Fellows be taken to a doctor. Mr. Sanders also declared that the trio admitted that they did not know why they hit Fellows.

En route to a doctor, Fellows said, they decided what to charge him with and asserted that, "Whatever we say will go."

"OFFICER" OF LAW

The defendants charged that Fellows cursed them when asked if he knew where the operator of a store was. Jarrell explained that he showed his pistol to Fellows and badge to prove that he was an officer of the law and even then Fellows advanced upon him with an open knife.

When asked why he did not tell was appointed by the commissioners to fill an unexpired term and it was his answer that he did not want to shoot him. Jarrell admitted that he struck Fellows with his fists.

John Swain, chairman of the Wake County Board of Commissioners said that ouster proceedings would be considered at the next meeting of the board. Jar-

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

WHITE DETECTIVE SHOOTS YOUTH, 11

FEB 15 1941

BIRMINGHAM, Feb. 13 (ANP) — "I just dropped a pot shot at him," is the way Detective Grover Gilliland described his shooting an 11-year-old boy playing hookey from school whom the officer suspected of being a thief.

Shoplifters had stolen four suits from a railroad supply company and officers had been given a description of the suspects. When the detective and his partner, H. H. Weir saw James Daniels and his friend Jack Dixon, 15, they ordered them to halt. Dixon did so, and called to his companion, "You'd better stop, the officer will shoot you." But the child continued running across a vacant lot. Gilliland shot him from a distance of about 100 yards.

The boys denied any connection with the shoplifting but admitted that they had been away from school for a number of days. Daniels is now in Hillman hospital with a compound fracture of the left leg.

Argus.

St. Louis, Missouri

R.R. Officer's Shooting Man Held Wanton

FEB 14 1941

Jury Returns Verdict In Favor of Plaintiff

Shooting of Negro suspect by railroad detective received a setback Wednesday, when, in Judge Charles B. Williams' division of Circuit Court, Mrs. Lena Ball, 400 Devlin Street, was awarded verdict granting her \$1500 damages against the Missouri Pacific Railroad in connection with the fatal shooting on August 17, 1940, of her husband Chester Ball, by John Doerr, special agent of the Missouri Pacific Railroad.

The Jury voted 9 to 3 in the favor of widow Ball and in so doing marked the first time, as far as tracing local records goes, that such a case has been won here.

Race Issue Raised

tion with the shoplifting but admitted that they had been away from school for a number of days. Daniels is now in Hillman hospital with a compound fracture of the left leg.

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Youths Testify Force Used To Get Confessions

FEB 14 1941
Two Negroes Tell Federal Court City Officer Slapped Them.

FEB 12 1941
Two young Negroes yesterday testified in federal court that confessions were obtained from them by force last February at the same time Quintar South, 16-year-old Negro, allegedly was burned with a metal instrument to obtain a confession from him.

The youths, John Biggs and Alfonso Jameson, testifying at the trial of W. F. Sutherland Atlanta police officer, charged with violating civil rights guaranteed by the United States Constitution, further told the court they were subsequently released. They testified Sutherland slapped them.

Most of the session as the trial entered its second day dealt with examination of South by defense counsel and Raymond V. Martin, assistant United States attorney, who, with Harvey H. Tysinger, assistant United States attorney, is handling the case for the government.

Another witness was Coach R. Robinson, of Clark University, who told the court he gave South a sweater which police charged was stolen from the gymnasium at the university.

South exhibited to the jury scars of burns on his neck and arm.

Shoplifters had stolen four suits from a railroad supply company and officers had been given a description of the suspects. When the detective and his partner, H. H. Weir, saw James Daniels and his friend, Jack Dixon, 15, they ordered them to halt. Dixon did so, and called to his companion, "You'd better stop, the officer will shoot you." But the child continued running across a vacant lot; Gilliland shot him from a distance of about 100 yards.

FEB 9 1941
The boys denied any connec-

The Plaindealer
Kansas City, Kan.

Birmingham Detective Shoots 11-Year-Old Boy

FEB 14 1941

clothes from a store. According to the Detective, they came upon two Negro boys who ran from them. The officers called to them to halt and one of them halted. James Daniel ran on, so Detective Gilliland shot him. FEB 13 1941

Gilliland said he thought the boy fitted a description given him of one of the alleged thieves. Friends of the wounded youth, however, said he was small for his age, which is 11. The shoplifters were described as adults.

The detective said later investigation had convinced him that the boy he shot was not one of the persons he was looking for. It was reported that the Daniels youth was playing hookey from school at the time and might have run from Gilliland mistaking him for a truant officer.

James Daniels was taken to Hillman Hospital with a compound fracture, the bone of his leg shattered by the officer's bullet.

Police Commissioner "Bull" Connor announced that Gilliland would be suspended for thirty days without pay.

Negro Child Is Shot By Policeman

FEB 13 1941

Because a detective shot without knowing who he was shooting at, an 11-year-old boy is in the hospital with a shattered leg which may cause him to limp for the rest of his life.

The innocent victim is James Daniels, an orphan Negro child of 538 Forty-First Street, Birmingham.

The shot was fired by Detective Grover Gilliland of the Birmingham police force.

Gilliland reported to Police Chief Riley that he and another officer had gone to the railroad yard near Fifth Avenue and Thirty-Second Street looking for three men alleged to have stolen some suits of

15-1941

Birmingham, Ala. News
February 7, 1941

Proper Action

Commissioner Connor is to be commended for his prompt action in suspending without pay for 30 days a city detective who shot and injured an 11-year-old Negro boy in a chase a few days ago. The detective in question, an officer of long service with the department and a record described by Commissioner Connor as "excellent," committed a serious error of judgment when he fired at a young boy who was running away from him. It is not clear, incidentally, that the boy was guilty of any offense.

The detective reported that he and another officer were searching for three Negroes who had stolen some clothing and were hiding in a railroad yard, when they came upon two Negroes who ran. One of them stopped when the officers ordered them to halt, but the other kept running. It was then that the detective fired, and the one shot struck the fleeing boy. The detective, who apparently has faced up to his mistake in judgment in an entirely honest fashion, reported that later investigation raised doubt that the boy who was shot was one of the three they were seeking. He said he believed the boy was merely playing hookey from school and ran when he mistook the detectives for truant officers. This is praiseworthy frankness on the officer's part.

Obviously, it would have been much better to let the child get away than to shoot him down, in the circumstances. We are sure the detective himself, on sober second thought, would have realized as much. But, unfortunately for the boy and for the officer himself, he fired impulsively.

Perhaps he only meant to frighten the boy and make him stop running. But that is no excuse for an experienced police detective, who should know that bullets fired in such a manner sometimes hit someone.

It is very fortunate for the detective as well as for the boy that the wound was no more serious than it was—a leg injury. Otherwise, the detective would have had to face much more severe punishment than a 30-day suspension.

It is to be hoped that this case will help to bring about a stronger realization on the part of all members of the force that a hasty trigger finger on the part of police officers is not desirable.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

TRY TO FORCE HER TO NAME 2ND SUSPECT

More Brutality By New
Orleans Police Cited In
Woman's Arrest
FEB 22 1941

NEW ORLEANS, La.—Lying abed in Flint-Goodridge hospital with multiple wounds on her face and body, Mrs. Daisy Powell, former wife of Wilbert Smith, told a very grotesque story.

Her husband had lately been extradited from Detroit on a 10-year-old charge of killing a policeman in New Orleans. Thirty minutes after he was in the city and while he still bore the handcuffs on his hands, he was taken out of a car by Detective William Grosch and shot to death by the detective who claims that the handcuffed man tried to overpower him.

According to statements of Mrs. Powell she was at a Rampart street cafe when she was called by the same detective who had been in the car when Smith was killed. Mrs. Powell stated that she was asked about the presence of the man who is alleged to have been present with Smith when the murder was committed. She disclaimed any knowledge of the man's whereabouts.

Taken into the detectives' car, Mrs. Powell said that she was driven past the First precinct station and taken to Poydras and North Claiborne streets where she claims she was beaten by Detective Grosch and told to leave the city. She was then taken back to the First precinct station and lodged in jail.

POLICE BRUTALITY

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

LA. COPS ATTACK COLORED WOMAN

FEB 22 1941

Police Kidnap Woman, Beat
and Kick Her for Not Fur-
nishing Information—Bru-
tal Treatment of Race, Citi-
zens Continues.

NEW ORLEANS, La. Feb.
20.—Police brutality con-
tinues to assert itself follow-
ing aroused public indigna-
tion over the recent killing of
Wilmer Smith by a local detective.
It was revealed this week that
Mrs. Daisy Powell is confined at
the Flint-Goodridge Hospital suf-
fering from serious injuries inflict-
ed by two policemen.

Mrs. Powell alleges that she was
accosted by the policemen last
Sunday night and forced to get
in the officer's car and was taken
to an outlying section and ques-
tioned as to the whereabouts of
Leroy Carl, who is said to have
been involved with Smith in the
shooting of a policeman in Jan-
uary, 1930.

When the woman confessed she
knew nothing of Carl, the officers
began to beat and kick her. Ac-
cording to her statement, she could
not identify the men.

Many civic organizations are de-
manding a probe into the willful
shooting of Smith by Detective
Grosch last month when Smith was
brought here from Detroit to stand
trial for the 1930 murder.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Atlanta Contractor Tells

How He Was Struck With Pistol

FEB 16 1941

William B. Cooper, plasterer and contractor, who resides at 128 Yonge Street, SE, said he was beaten at his home Saturday afternoon by a police officer.

Mr. Cooper declared he was seated at a table in his dining room making out a payroll Saturday afternoon around 2 o'clock when the officer walked in and couted him on the head three times with a pistol.

Mr. Cooper said he had about \$345 in bills and about \$5 in change on the table when the policeman entered the room.

The victim told the WORLD Saturday night he had not secured the officer's name but reported the incident to police officials. He said a police lieutenant came to his home and "got the facts."

Mr. Cooper said a white man wearing khaki trousers and a tan leather jacket entered his dining room and asked him what he was doing with "all of that money."

The plasterer said he was struck three times after telling the officer "I don't think that is any of your business."

FEB 16 1941
Mr. Cooper said he recognized one of the officers who remained in an automobile while the alleged attacker went into the house.

Mr. Cooper said his attacker explained to him later he was struck with the pistol because he spoke out of turn to a white man.

"He did not tell me he was an officer when he entered my room," the plasterer stated.

AMSTERDAM NEWS
New York, N. Y.

TOCITEWEAVER CASE MONDAY

MAR 1 1941

Irked by the alleged wave of "police brutality," Brooklyn citizens and the Brooklyn Branch of the National Negro Congress will stage

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Defendant Does Not Take Stand

FEB 19 1941

FEB 19 1941

The Sutherland trial was a step nearer the jury Tuesday after defense attorneys completed their case without calling the defendant to the witness stand.

In another surprise move, Defense Attorney Client Hager declared his side would not argue the case.

According to a Federal court custom, Government attorneys follow suit when the defense decides against delivering the usual arguments. United States Assistant District Attorney H. H. Tysinger explained.

JURY INSTRUCTION AT 10 O'CLOCK

Federal Judge E. Marvin Underwood excused the jurors shortly before noon and informed them he would give them their instructions this morning at 10 o'clock.

Tuesday marked the seventh day of the 'torture' trial during which time scores of witnesses were cross-examined in an effort to determine the innocence of W. F. Sutherland, an Atlanta policeman, charged with violating the civil rights of Quintar South last February by burning the former David T. Howard student to obtain a burglary confession.

The defense closed its case after calling two police officials and three white business men to the witness stand.

Each of the witnesses said Sutherland is a man of good character.

STATE INDICTMENT ENTERED FEB 19 1941

Over the protest of Assistant District Attorney Martin, the defense was allowed to enter evidence a Fulton County state court indictment which showed that Sutherland was acquitted last June of a charge of assault and battery. The indictment was returned against Sutherland last March after a Fulton County Grand Jury investigated the alleged burning of South.

The Government called Juvenile Officer J. N. Starnes back to the

New York ~~Age~~
New York, N. Y.

Hot Iron Torture Of Negro Youth Revealed In Trial Of Policeman

MAR 1 1941

ATLANTA, Ga.—(CNA)—Quinter South, 16-year-old youth, told a Federal Court here that W. F. Sutherland, white Atlanta police officer, burned his arms and chest with a hot metal instrument in the police station on February 28, 1940, and made him "confess" to a burglary he did not commit. The trial of Sutherland, which raises the whole issue of brutality by police against our people, is now going on.

Quinter South, holding in his hand a five-inch piece of metal used as a photographer's drying tool, said the policeman heated the electric instrument for "eight or ten minutes" and then applied it to his flesh seeking for a forced confession. He said he had been held in jail three days previously and that the officer had slapped him repeatedly.

The youth was the first government witness called as Sutherland went on trial under a three-count Federal indictment charging him with violating civil rights guaranteed by the United States Constitution.

Sutherland's defense attorney, Clint W. Hager, Republican party leader, told the jury he expected to prove that the youth had given a full written confession of the burglary prior to the time of the alleged torture and that Sutherland never was present in the photographer's room at the police station on the night when Quinter South was burned.

As the trial entered its third day the prosecution summoned Harold Martin and H. J. Slayton, white Atlanta newspaper men, to tell of interviews and pictures of the burns, etc., substantiating the story of the youth.

Two other youths, John Biggs and Alfonso Jameson, testified Sutherland slapped them also to force confessions from them in the same case. Later, they were released after they had been beaten into accusing Quinter South. Both youths now say they are not guilty and South is not guilty.

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Second Trial Of Sutherland Due March 17

FEB 22 1941

Atlanta Policeman Faces Charge of Forcing Confession.

A second federal trial for W. F. (Red) Sutherland, Atlanta policeman, on charges of violating civil rights guaranteed under the constitution of the United States, will be held March 17, it was learned yesterday.

The first federal trial for the officer, who was accused of using an electric iron on Quintar South, 16-year-old Negro boy, to force a confession from him, ended in a mistrial Thursday after the jury announced itself deadlocked following more than 30 hours deliberation.

Although declining to give details, Assistant United States Attorneys Raymond Martin and Harvey H. Tysinger, who handled the first prosecution for the government, indicated a number of new witnesses would be called and that "surprise developments" may come in the new trial.

Anderson, S. C. W.
February 12, 1941

Cop Accused Of Burning Negro; Newsmen Called

ATLANTA, Feb. 12—(AP)—Trying an Atlanta policeman for allegedly burning a young Negro to force a burglary confession, government attorneys today called a newspaper reporter and photographer to the witness stand.

Summoned were Harold Martin and H. J. Slayton, reporter and photographer for The Atlanta Constitution, to tell of interviews and pictures in the case.

The officer, W. F. Sutherland, is being tried on charges of trampling constitutional rights in violation of civil liberties. Specifically, he is accused of burning the young Negro, Quintar South, with a photographer's heating tool to

obtain a confession of theft of a sweatshirt from a Negro college gymnasium.

Prosecutor Raymond Martin said 40 Negroes would be questioned concerning treatment dealt them while city prisoners.

Yesterday, the athletic director of Atlanta University testified he gave South the sweater he is accused of stealing.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Assault Charged To Officer

FEB 23 1941

Judge Frees Contractor

Of Charges

Accused of beating a colored man on the head with a pistol one week ago. Officer Tom Harden, of the State Liquor Unit, was bound over to Fulton Criminal Court on an assault and battery charge following a hearing Saturday morning in Judge Callaway's Recorder's Court. Represented by Attorney Joe Ewing, William B. Cooper, plasterer and contractor who resides at 128 Yonge Street, SE, said the officer walked into his dining room Saturday afternoon, February 15, and hit him on his head three times with a pistol.

Cooper testified he was seated at a table, making out a payroll, when the officer entered. Cooper said he had approximately \$345 in bills and \$5 in change on the table.

The contractor declared the policeman asked him where he got the money and struck him when he told the officer "I don't think that it is any of your business."

According to testimony, Officer Harden said he hit Cooper with the gun when Cooper reached to the floor, while sitting at the table as though he might have been reaching for a weapon.

The officer was quoted as saying he entered the house because he thought Cooper was in the lottery business.

Cooper swore out a warrant for the officer's arrest and later was notified that he (Cooper) had been

Several city officers who were working with the state policeman waited in an automobile while Harden went into Cooper's house, it was testified

charged with disorderly conduct. The charge against Cooper was dropped Saturday morning after Judge Callaway bound over Harden.

15-1941

POLICE BRUTALITY

Police Department The Call And Negro Citizens

Kansas City, Mo.

JAN 31 1941 By Call Staff Writer

A newspaper story that it took the riot squad to stop Negroes from mobbing policemen is not a minor matter to be passed over lightly. Employers look into the reputation of workers too closely for that. Because this is so THE CALL in its last issue told of the incident Jan. 14 as police reported it and as it was according to eye-witnesses.

The police said they were arresting disturbers when onlookers attempted to take their prisoners from them, hence the riot call. Eye witnesses say a policeman kicked a woman, and that the onlookers were justly indignant. If that is true and had been stated in that newspaper story, nobody would have blamed Negroes, because the time has not yet come in America when men are to kick women, even be they officers making an arrest.

Law observance by the bit Negroes assumed that they had been singled out for harsh treatment, and they countered with the charge. "Chief Reed does not like Negroes. He's from Georgia."

There are two grave mistakes in that alibi. One is the charge that being a Georgian makes Reed "not like Negroes." Will Alexander comes from Georgia, so does Ashby Jones. The one in social service and the other in the church are men of power and prominence and both have been outstanding friends of Negroes. The other is the assumption that to enforce the law fairly an official needs to be friendly. That is asking too much. None of us can control his likes and dislikes. All we have a right to ask is that the Chief enforce the law without prejudice.

LOSS OF JOBS ONE CAUSE OF FRICTION

But that charge once made became the glass through which Negroes view everything the police do. They even called it unfriendly when the Chief stripped the knifetotors.

In Kansas City, a decade ago Negroes used to kill each other at the rate of one a week. In 1940 there were only 15 such murders, a saving of over 30 lives. When women killed men for pastime and any petty gambling debt was a cause for murder, this paper went crusading to get the murderers hung. Instead of blaming Reed for taking away the knives, Negroes should praise him for saving the lives.

POLICE KILLED A BOY OVER A HAM

Typical of their itching trigger-finger was the killing of a Negro boy for taking a ham from a grocery wagon. Not until the police came under the city's control during the days of the Pendergast organization did this free use of night-stick and pistol stop. That police administration was as lenient to Negroes as to other Kansas Citians.

Then came this administration with L. B. Reed as chief of police. Its strict enforcement, reform and no favors were in sharp contrast to previous enforcement. From ha-

But there is friction between the Negro group and the police which has real causes. Chief Reed started off by dismissing most of the Negroes on the police force. True, he dismissed whites, too, but for the more than twenty Negroes dropped he gave us only three replacements. The loss of that many jobs, especially since on population we were entitled to all we had and more, was bound to be viewed with disfavor.

Then it had another effect—it blocked understanding between the Negro people and the police. The policeman is the one official in government who has the most to do with every-day life. His work must be understood to have the public support it. Negroes simply cannot believe that the police department means them well when they have only ten of its many hundreds of employees.

Nor can they believe in the substitute their ideas for the police department when officers law. A case of that happened at Christmas time when the visitors were here attending the fraternity meetings.

One visitor, a lady from Detroit, stepped out of an Eighteenth street restaurant on to the sidewalk near the Paseo. Two officers passing in a squad car saw her and stopped. The crowd surged out into the street, the whites thrusting their spoke up. Instead of the officer understanding, the situation and taking his departure, he continued to address her with a brusqueness hardly suited to a known police character. His "Oh Yeah" was matched by his manner as he rejoined his companion. Then the two sat in their car and made fun of the visitors.

The Call

FAIR COLOR NO REASON FOR INSULTS

Explanation? The hour, the place, the conduct of the woman and her husband interposing all were regular. It must have been that her fairness of color caused them to think she was not a Negro. But if he did think that, what

law has Missouri that a person black or white cannot conduct himself properly in a neighborhood black or white? What this officer did was the one sour note discrediting our city's otherwise perfect hospitality.

Had colored officers been on duty in this colored neighborhood they would have recognized the visitor as a former teacher in Kansas City's colored schools.

The alleged riot of January 14 took place on Eighteenth street between Forest and Tracy, a neighborhood patrolled year in and year out by the police singly, by twos or any other way without molestation. The people are poor, but not law-breakers. It is far more likely

that something provoked their resentment than that they voluntarily offered to interfere with an arrest.

Police are high-handed with this paper. For some reason not given the police department forbids The Call from seeing its records.

The Police can easily be so full of one official source of police news, their responsibility and importance. The records are public documents, that they are like the newly appointed officer in the story who the records. Yet the department went home and beat his wife. He says L. J. Smith, refuses to let Call had never laid hand on her before. To her astonished ears he explained he volunteered the added statement that the refusal was the way he, Smith, would have it. Smith is "superintendent of police training and education and public relations" "Public relations" mind you!

OFFICERS OF OLD WORLD DIPLOMATS The Call

The past points the remedy. Alleging that a Negro had committed rape a group of white people with bloodhounds from out Independence way, came into Kansas City by a smile. They are not wise to use only force.

It takes more than wishing to reform an evil. All the blame does not belong on Chief Reed. Like any executive he assumes that his men do as they should and unless shown to the contrary he gives them backing. Proof of misconduct is hard to furnish against a policeman. He has everything on his side. But when complaints pile up, the police authorities will realize something is wrong.

Negroes don't talk so much. It gains you nothing. Make your complaints formally to the police commissioners where they will count.

In the meanwhile the word got out that whites were planning a lynching. Almost in the twinkling of an eye Twelfth street and other Negro neighborhoods poured their men on to the scene. Stop lights that night only meant "Drive Faster!" There stood two armed groups—a tense moment.

But those were the days of Capt. Casey—God rest his soul—who had superintended police activities in this Negro neighborhood for many years. He understood, and without a threat or show of force, told the Negroes that there would be no lynching that night.

There was not. The accused Negro never was indicted. January 14 if there was any overt attempt to interfere with the police these two officers could have reminded the Negroes that law enforcement had to go on and that they should help, not hinder it. But if an officer kicked a woman, they needed the riot squad.

The Call

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

POLICE OFFICER SUED FOR \$12,000

Alleged to Have Insulted and Then Assaulted Race
Filling Station Owner.

JAN 4 - 1941

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 2—Suit has been filed in the St. Louis Circuit Court by Atty. George L. Vaughn seeking \$12,000 damages from Policeman Homer Montgomery, of the motorcycle squad of the Metropolitan police department, on three counts, on behalf of John Montjoy, filling station proprietor and well-known race businessman.

In the petition, it is charged that Montjoy was driving on Delmar boulevard Wednesday evening, December 4, accompanied by his wife, who is a former school teacher, when Officer Montgomery yelled,

"Drive to the curb, n——r!"

The petition also points out that the officer demanded to see his driver's license and Selective Service Registration card; that he used vile and abusive language toward Montjoy in the presence of his wife, and became incensed when Montjoy objected to the officer's conduct.

According to the petition, Officer Montgomery told the businessman that he had no reason to arrest him at that time, but he added a warning, "if I ever catch you in front of me, I'll lock you up."

When Montjoy refused to move after the officer ordered him to drive on, the petition further asserts, Montjoy refused to obey, telling the officer that he did not desire to be arrested and declined to go on ahead of him.

It was at this juncture, according to the petition, that the officer struck Montjoy in the face and eyes with a flashlight through the open window on the driver's side, ordered him to drive to the Ninth District police station and that, after he got out of the car, the policeman attempted to trip Montjoy and kicked him in the shins as he went up the steps of the Ninth District police station.

According to the petition in the damage suit, Montjoy was held for 30 minutes at the station before being released and told that there was no charge against him.

Each count of the petition, in its three parts, asks for \$2,000 actual and \$2,000 punitive damages.

torture instrument, and that with the permission of Judge Garland Watkins, of the juvenile court, and in the custody of Starnes, he took South to the police station.

There, Martin continued, they saw Captain G. Neal Ellis and South led them to the alleged torture chamber, the dark room of the identification bureau at police headquarters.

"Led by Captain Ellis, we left the dark room and went to a line-up of plainclothes detectives. South immediately and without hesitation pointed out the defendant, Sutherland, as the man who burned him. Sutherland dropped his head," Martin said.

Slayton identified photographs as those he had taken and the photographs were introduced in evidence. Starnes and Willingham corroborated Martin's testimony.

Mrs. Harrison, a member of the U. D. C. and the D. A. R., whose father served as a major in the Confederate army, told the court South was employed as a handy boy at her home and that the Saturday prior to his arrest had no burns or other marks on him. She added South worked for her a year.

Negro Labor News

Houston, Texas

Glowing Flames

By REV. L. V. BOLTON

Highway Brutality Must Stop; Negroes Should Protest

A young man by the name of John Gray went to Hitchcock, a little place between Galveston and Houston, several weeks ago in search for work. work that is going on at a government camp near Hitchcock has lured many Negroes to that place.

FEB 8 - 1941

They have gone there looking for a job, John Gray, Jr., joined the marching, searching crowd of Negroes who want a chance to work and earn an honest dollar.

While sitting down awaiting a chance to be hired on the government project, he seems to have been entertaining himself, probably with some dice, and was discovered by one of our highway patrolmen, who went over to the place where he was and told him to get going. When the boy drew on a pad of paper a crude picture of the alleged John started away it is reported

that the highway patrolman in question pulled his gun and shot him in white man or some helpless Negro, one of his legs, causing him to fall. What Should Be Done?

Not only should Negroes, but all good white citizens who believe that man who dragged him away out of Hitler should be stopped, should sight of on-lookers, and later return-write letters of protest to Assistant Director Fred Hickman, Department of Public Safety, Camp Mabry, Austin to attend other business, probably in Texas. Every Negro doctor, in search for another Negro lawyer, school teacher, business man shoot. What brutality and Ne-and preacher, and every Negro wo-groes insist, that is, some of them, man's club and every organization of that Negroes should sing, "God Bless Negro preachers should write letters of protest today. Every moderator of a Baptist district association, every

Who Was The Officer?

He was the same highway patrolman who falsely arrested Editor Carter W. Wesley of The Houston In-S. R. Prince, A. W. Pryor and P. S. former, near Springs, last May. He Wilkinson should speak for these is the same man who caused Carter W. Wesley to be locked up in letters of protest to the Highway De-jail for hours after he had been mal-treated, attacked and beaten till he Texas. FEB 8 - 1941 was in great pain and covered with Yes sir, every presiding elder and his own blood. This is the same superintendent of our several Meth-man who is waiting to catch youodist churches and every resident Mr. Black Man while you drive Bishop in Texas should send a let-down our Texas highways and claimer to Austin protesting against that you are speeding or gambling such acts as have been perpetrated and beat you into a pulp and lock by Patrolman H. R. Owens.

you in some dirty jail and leave you Remember the time when one of there to suffer, or to shoot you in the highwa patrolmen slapped Dr. G. your legs, while you are sitting I. Prince of Galveston, and president around waiting to be hired on some of the National Baptist Convention job. This man hates Negroes. But of America. If something is not he is our high patrolman. You helpline to put an end to this, you may to pay him. Every Negro in Tex-rest assured of some of our other as who pays taxes helps to pay him high ups getting beat up, or unlaw-He is known in the highway depart-fully arrested and fined.

An Investigation Is On

is known to the citizens of Texas as We should not be cowards, neither the man on the highway who beats should be be cheap. Many of our and shoots Negroes.

Shall Negroes Keep Silent?

Some Negroes might not be con-group of Negroes have caused civil concerned about Patrolman H. R. Owens action to be taken against Highway and his having beaten and stomped Patrolman Owens, also another Editor Wesley and his having gone charge, has been instigated through out of his way to attack and shoot John Gray, Jr. But this is not only a young Negro man who was not Gray's fight. It is the fight of driving a car and was not disturbing every Negro in Texas, therefore any off, and according to witnesses those of us who did not get shot was not violating any law of Texas can give or help raise money with There might be some white people which to fight this matter through to who are not the least concerned a finish in the courts about Patrolman H. R. Owen's crimi-nal deeds, but all men are not go-money. Lawyers must be paid. Evidence must be assembled. Wit-

The peace loving, law abiding citi-zens, both white and colored of this grand jury must be given the infor-state are going to do something about mation regarding how the crime was this highway brutality. All know committed. This requires money. that our highway department is not Are you concerned one dollar's cleaned and cleared of this type of worth? How much will you give high handed, unprovoked, uncalled in a fight for your protection? Re-for brutality now, we will be giving member, if Gray fails in this fight it every highway patrolman the signa-means that all the Negroes in Texas

failed. Let us go to this young Negro's aid and thereby prove to our white citizens that we will fight for right.—Selah.

15-1941

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Liberal Southerner Witnessed Policeman's Brutal Beating of Helpless Victim—Plans Suit.

BIRMINGHAM, May 29. (ANP)—Arrested because he refused to assist in the arrest of a man being brutally beaten by a policeman, Joseph Gelders, white, said Saturday that he was going to prefer charges against the officer. C. H. Mason.

Gelders, who is secretary of the Civil Rights Committee of the Southern Conference of Human Welfare, said that he and members of his committee, along with Southern Negro Youth Congress and the League of Young Southerners (white), representatives were distributing petitions asking for the abolition of poll tax laws. Because they had no permit to distribute the circulars, the group had been told by police to stop passing them. According to Gelders, he saw a crowd gathered around a car in which James Blood was lying motionless and being beaten by Mason, who used a blackjack, then the butt of his pistol.

When Gelders went over to learn the identity of the policeman, Mason asked him to go across the street and get his fellow officer; Gelders refused. Thereupon Gelders and Blood were taken to police headquarters.

"The officer was obviously committing a crime, beating on the poor helpless Negro," said Gelders. "I refused to help him any further in the crime." He added that at the jail he was placed in a room adjoining the one in which Blood was put, and that he could hear the police beating him. He said when he came out, blood was coming from the man's face and "he looked crazed with pain."

Blood was charged with malicious mischief, disorderly conduct, and resisting arrest. Gelders was released on \$300 bond, and said that he has retained attorneys to bring assault charges against Officer Mason.

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois
Police Demeanor

THE frequency of deaths caused by police officers of the city has occasioned some concern for serious thought. Recently a white police officer killed a Negro on the North Side for the reason that he was leaving the scene of a minor accident. Still more recently a colored officer was accused of causing a man's death by striking him on the leg. The wound subsequently developed septic poisoning which caused his death.

It goes without saying that both men were exonerated by coroner's juries. That is as it has been time since the memory of man runneth not to the contrary. When a police officer kills coroner's juries have a sunny way of calling his acts justifiable homicide. And if anyone wishes to challenge their verdicts they will find the going tough and the result doubtful of production. That is especially true where the victim is a Negro.

The two cases mentioned do not by any means exhaust the list of casualties that result from quick-triggered, billie swinging police officers whose contempt for the civil rights of citizens is exceeded only by their propensities for brutality.

The police officer has a duty to the community. His duty is to preserve peace and to enforce the law. When he beats and maims and kills his presence on the police force becomes a liability to the city and a burden on the enforcement of civil rights and liberties.

In the colored communities police have beaten with impunity persons who were least able to protect themselves and for whom the police department need give its most concern. Colored officers have not at all times shown that they were immune from the propensities that make for brutality.

POLICE BRUTALITY

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

County Grand Jury to Investigate Charges Of Police Brutality

James Williams, World War Veteran,
Slashes Own Throat in Jail; Says
Beatings So Painful Wanted to Die

Did the police beat James Williams, 46-year-old World War veteran who died at General hospital No. 2 Wednesday, June 18, two days after he slashed his throat in the Jackson county jail?

If they didn't who did?

Nobody denies that Williams was beaten before he cut his own throat.

The evidence of a beating was so great that Judge Paul Buzard has ordered the prosecuting attorney to present the case before the next Jackson county grand jury which will be called in August.

Williams, who lived at 2606 Highland Ave., was being held in jail on a charge of slaying William "Bud" Davis, 1712 Forest Ave., on June 4, at 18th and Forest. Davis, a 61-year-old Spanish-American War veteran, was fatally stabbed.

Williams, arrested on June 9, denied killing Davis and told relatives and deputy sheriffs that he was beaten by police in an effort to make him confess.

He said that the bruises and welts on his body were so painful and he was so fearful of "getting more" that he cut his throat in the hope that he would die and be out of pain.

He cut his throat Monday

and died at the hospital on Wednesday. On Tuesday he continued to deny his guilt.

When he entered the county jail, Williams was examined by a physician who found bruises around his neck, on his shoulders and mid back, on the thighs and both arms. The left arm was swollen to almost twice its size with the hand also swollen.

O'Hern Investigate

O'Hern, in investigating Williams' condition, is taking statements from all persons who contacted the man before and after he was taken into custody.

Williams' suicide attempt in the jail Monday was surprising to the county jailers and deputies. J. A. Purdome, chief deputy sheriff, said that the prisoner asked for a razor to shave. As it is customary to let prisoners shave when they wish, a deputy handed Williams a razor.

He stepped before the mirror as if to shave and seven seconds later, men who were also shaving at the time saw blood streaming from his neck. Believing that he had cut himself, they rushed to aid him and found that he had slashed his neck with the blade from the razor.

He continued to cut himself as they grasped his arms. He was taken immediately from the

"tank" and first aid administered. He was then rushed to General hospital No. 2 where he died on Wednesday, June 18.

Pictures taken of the man when he entered the county jail showed bruises over his body.

According to the deputy sheriff, men in the cells questioned following Williams' suicide try, said that he was in great pain while in the jail. They also said that he could scarcely get around alone, but had had to be aided to walk. The doctor saw the man while he was there once or twice a day.

He complained, according to jail officials, of a severe pain near the small of his back and the bruises about his neck and around his waist.

Purdome said that when Williams was brought in he told him that he was "innocent, and they tried to make him admit it." He also told him that he didn't do it (meaning killing Davis) and that he didn't know anything about it.

He said that he had been in the neighborhood earlier on the evening of the Davis death but knew nothing about the same.

JUN 27 1941
Other Means

Purdome in making a statement to the press, said that in his years of experience with more than 2,000 men, it had been a rare case in which he or his deputies laid hands on a prisoner. He said that they used other means of punishment, when necessary. He said that solitary confinement or depriving the men of liberties was used more effectively, but even that was seldom used. He ended by saying, "I do not advocate that type of treatment."

The day before he died, Williams told his wife and sisters that he was beaten so badly by the police that he didn't want to live because he knew that "they will kill me if I don't confess and I'm not going to do that because I didn't kill Davis."

"I would die before I'd say that I killed a man I didn't kill," Williams told his sister, Mrs. Essie Bailey, 4309 Washington Ave.

Williams said he cut his throat because he did not want to live to face any more beatings from police officers.

After he was taken to the hospital, a tube was placed in Williams' throat. His sister said that Williams tried to pull out the tube because he wanted to die and be relieved of the pain the bruises were giving him.

Mrs. Gussie Williams, wife of the dead man, said yesterday that her husband was at home in bed before 9:30 p.m. on the night of the killing. She said that he left home about 8 o'clock, stayed between 30 and 45 minutes and came home and went to bed. He had been drinking, she said, and dozed in a chair before he decided to re-

tire for the night.
He went to work on a WPA project the rest of the week, went fishing on Sunday, June 8, and went to work Monday morning, June 9, returning home in the afternoon when work was halted by rain. He was asleep, she said, when Detectives Wyatt and Gibson came to the home Monday afternoon, June 9, and took him to police headquarters.

Mrs. Williams said that when she visited her husband in the county jail, he showed her bruises and welts which he said came from a beating by police officers. He was unable to talk Monday but on Tuesday was able to whisper enough for his relatives to understand him. He told his wife and sisters that he slashed his throat to avoid further beatings.

"James told me," Mrs. Bailey said, "that it was the city police who beat him. It was not any of the jail attendants. He told me that at the hospital."

Williams told his sisters and his wife that he didn't want to get well because "they are going to kill me." He told them that he was "burning up inside" from the effects of the beating.

He was not able to give the names of the officers who beat him. He said he was beaten with a hose.

Despite the beating, however, Williams did not confess to the slaying. He made a statement to police but did not confess.

Williams was born in Atlanta, Ga., the youngest of 12 children. He came to Kansas City in 1907.

Williams had owned his home at 2606 Highland for about five years and had been living there for two years. Before that time, the home was rented and Williams and his wife lived in janitor quarters where they were employed.

Williams was a World War veteran, having served overseas for nearly a year.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Gussie Williams; of the Highland Ave. address; two sisters, Mrs. Maggie Thomas, and Mrs. Essie Pearl Bailey, both of 4309 Washington Ave.; and a brother, Frank Williams who lives in Leeds, Mo.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, June 21, at the Watkins Brothers funeral parlor. The Rev. J. L. Lillard, pastor of the St. James Baptist church in Westport, will officiate.

20 Years Ago



JAMES WILLIAMS
In World War I Uniform.

Southern News
Almanac
Birmingham, Ala.

Protest Against Another Case Of Police Violence; Charge Negro Is Beaten

A new case of violence by Birmingham officers was charged this week in a statement issued by the Jefferson County Committee Against Police Brutality.

Two city police [redacted] are accused in the statement of cruelly beating Johnnie Jackson, Negro, 1919 10th Alley, No., when they arrested him at his home on July 12. The officers are not named in the statement, but it is asserted that their badge numbers are 88 and 58 and that they were driving patrol car number 32.

The Committee's resolution recalls three killings by policemen in Jefferson County during the past year: those of Eugene Whitfield, shot to death by a Birmingham officer, and O'Dee Henderson and John Jackson, slain by Fairfield police.

DEMAND PROSECUTION

The organization demands that the City "remove officers 88 and 58 from the force, see that they are prosecuted for assault and battery, and take whatever further steps may be necessary to put an end to this lawless violence by law-enforcement officers." It also calls upon Governor Dixon "to investigate the police departments of Birmingham and Fairfield in order to make sure that the higher-ups responsible for hiring habitual criminals as policemen and protecting and shielding them in their crimes shall be exposed to the public and removed from office."

Recent "investigations" conducted by the Bessemer coroner, the Bessemer grand jury and the Fairfield police department of the Jackson slaying in Fairfield last April took evidence from one side only—that of the officer.

GIVES DETAILS

The report [redacted] tells the following story of the most recent case, asserting that it was told to the Committee Against Police Brutality by eye-witnesses. The officers struck Jackson over the head and shot at him when he tried to escape. Then they dragged him out from under a house where he had tried to hide and "one of them stomped Jackson in the head with his foot, while Jackson was lying on the ground, and also kicked him in the groin. Then officer 58 dragged Jackson to his feet and held his arms behind him while

Wilson, N. C., Wkly. Times
August 12, 1941
JUSTICE AND MERCY SHOULD GO HAND IN HAND.

Justice and mercy should go hand in hand. The dismissal of Dr. E. H. Spainhour, prison physician, for not administering first aid to a negro prisoner when he was injured while at work on the road is the right thing to do, for a negro prisoner is entitled to consideration, fair treatment and all the medical attention that the state can give him when he is either sick or injured.

The name of the negro was John D. Rockefeller, but his name did not make much impression it seems on the doctor. The prisoner was up five months for a liquor violation from Winston-Salem, and this was unseemly of course in a community that votes dry and drinks wet.

The doctor, it is said, found he had a broken leg, but did not apply a splint or bestow any medicine. He is reported to have told prison officials to put Rockefeller on a mattress and bring him to the central prison. When he arrived he was found to have internal injuries and died in twenty minutes after reaching the prison.

There has been quite enough publicity about the way prisoners have been treated in this state, when their legs froze and they lost their limbs, for any prison doctor to know that the sympathetic people of North Carolina will not tolerate such treatment and Prison Director Oscar Pitts will be commended for his action.

News
Birmingham, Ala.

Flogging Women Prisoners

It is shocking to read that five white women prisoners at the Wetumpka State Prison were flogged in punishment for a "riot" which they are said to have staged. Flogging as punishment for male convicts is considered bad enough, but flogging women prisoners is certainly repugnant to the public.

Gov. Dixon has taken the right attitude toward this affair, and he has given expression to it vigorously. "We just don't use those methods in our prisons," the governor declared, in making known the fact that the warden at the Wetumpka prison has resigned as a consequence of the flogging. The governor remarked, however, that he had not asked for the resignation, and added that it was now a closed incident.

Gov. Dixon is to be commended for his attitude in the matter, and also for his refusal to reveal the names of the women.

These prisoners are entitled to protection, he said, and publication of their names might interfere with efforts to rehabilitate them.

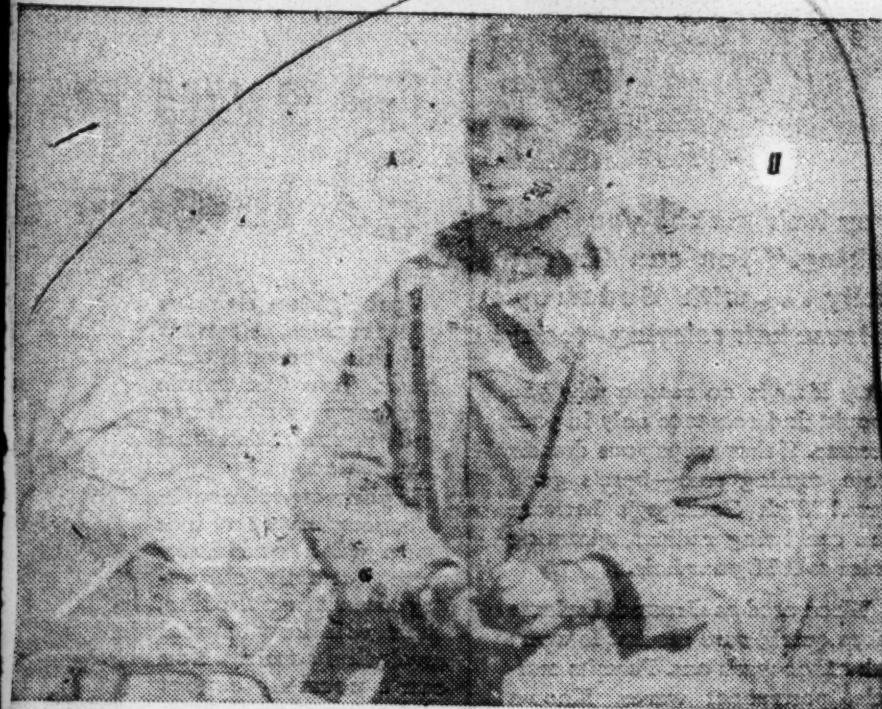
It was a regular [redacted] incident, but it is good to know that the governor of Alabama has so clearly shown that such methods will not be permitted in this state.

15-1941

Black Dispatch

Oklahoma City, Okla.

Denies Confession White On Stand



FEB 8 - 1941 W. D. LYONS

FEB 8 - 1941

State's Attorney Sam Latmer, Oklahoma City, leaped to the fore last Thursday and took over the questioning of W. D. Lyons, when Lyons, so enraged County Attorney Norman Horton that Horton admitted the whipping and clubbing Lyons had received.

Horton tried to make Lyons say he (Horton) was not present when the whipping and clubbing took place, but Lyons looking him in the eye retorted "Oh, yes you were there." The audience tittered and livid with rage Horton surprised the court by saying "Why I stopped them from whipping you."

The cat was out of the bag and in the record. Before Horton regained his composure he had made several other damaging statements confirming testimony to which Lyons had sworn.

Daily World

Atlanta, Georgia

White Witnesses Describe Burns

FEB 13 1941

Quintar South, 16, did not have any wounds on his body the night he was removed from his home by city policemen and booked on suspicion of burglarizing the gymnasium at Clark University, his mother declared Wednesday in her testimony to a jury in United States District Court.

Mrs. Rosa South appeared as a witness for the Government at the trial of Policeman W. F. Sutherland who is charged in a three-count

POLICE BRUTALITY

federal indictment with violating the "civil rights" of the former David T. Howard Junior High school student.

CIVIL RIGHTS VIOLATED

Assistant United States District Attorneys Raymond W. Martin and H. H. Tysinger contend Sutherland violated Quintar South's "civil rights" by forcing a confession from him. The prosecuting attorneys claim Sutherland slapped the 16-year-old boy and burned him three times with a red hot photographer's drying iron at the Police Station last February.

Testifying before U. S. Federal Judge E. Marvin Underwood, Mrs. South clearly stated she was denied the right to see her son while he was being held at the City Jail and Fulton (Big Rock) Tower.

Several prominent white persons went to the witness stand Wednesday and admitted seeing "raw wounds" on South's neck and arm after he had been transferred from Fulton Tower to the Juvenile Detention Home.

DISCOVERED WOUNDS

Probation Officer J. N. Starnes threw a revealing light on the trial when he testified under cross-examination that it was he who first discovered South's wounds. Officer Starnes said he went to the Tower to question South about the burglary because he was holding a juvenile at the detention home on suspicion of the same charge.

It was during the interview with South in Fulton Tower, he said, that he first saw the wounds on South's neck and arm. The probation officer declared South told him Officer Sutherland burned him with the drying iron in a photographer's developing room at City Jail to obtain a confession.

Officer Starnes told the court he related the conversation to Juvenile Judge Watkins, who ordered the investigation.

PHOTOGRAPHS MADE

Harold Martin, of the Atlanta Constitution editorial department, and H. J. Slayton, a Constitution photographer, told of seeing the wounds after visiting South. At the request of the Constitution city editor, Martin said they went to the Police Station with South where South pointed out Policeman Sutherland as the man who burned him

with the iron. Pictures made of South by Photographer Slayton have been used during the trial for identification purposes.

When shown the drying iron and the electric cord attachment both newspapermen said part of the instrument was missing. A plug used for attaching the electric cord to a wall socket was missing, they declared.

FEB 1
Attorney George W. Willingham, who said he is South's attorney, told the jury he saw "burns" on the boy's neck and arm which were the size of a 25-cent piece.

Mrs. S. B. Savage, who described herself as a matron at the Juvenile Home, admitted dressing "superficial wounds" she found on South's neck and arm.

Mrs. C. E. Harrison, wife of an executive of the Southern Bell Telephone Company, said the wounds she saw on South were worse than those revealed by pictures made by photographers of the Constitution and FBI.

FEB 13 1941
TRIAL TO CONTINUE WEEK

Wednesday marked the third day of the trial and according to indications the trial will continue into next week.

Clint Hager and H. A. Allen, legal representatives for Sutherland, alternated in questioning Governor witnesses.

Officer Sutherland was acquitted in a state court last year as an assault and battery charge which grew out of his alleged burning of South.

The Federal Grand Jury returned its three-count indictment against Sutherland shortly after the Fulton Grand Jury returned charges against the accused policeman.

Less than five colored spectators were in the courtroom Monday to hear the trial, but nearly 50 attended the four-hour session Wednesday.

TELLS OF BRUTALITY

South testified Monday and Tuesday, declaring that he made the confession after Officer Sutherland slapped him, threatened to cut his fingers with a paper cutter and burned him with the hot iron.

Ralph Robinson, coach at Clark University, testified Tuesday, stating that he gave South the jersey he was accused of stealing from the Clark gym.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.
~~Harlem Rally~~

To Hit Police
Brutality
MAR 14 1941

Young Father Beaten
While Tending Baby
On Street

Victor Garcia, young Porto Rican father who was beaten up by plainclothesmen while he tended his baby in its carriage a few weeks ago, will tell his story tonight at a mass meeting called by East Harlem Workers' organizations.

As related to assembled delegates to a recent Harlem Legislative Conference, eyewitness accounts of the assault on Garcia were that two men in civilian clothes first ordered him to "get to hell out of here."

MAR 14 1941
BEATEN

When he asked them who they were, witnesses said, the men repeated their command that he move on, following it up with dragging him into the hallway of the apartment house where he lived at 1497 Madison Ave. and beating him.

Garcia's cries attracted his wife, who was upstairs with the other child. It was not until Mrs. Garcia and her neighbors surrounded the men that they said they were policemen.

Garcia was thereupon arrested and taken to the 23rd Precinct station. Arraigned, he was held in \$100 bail. The money was raised by Mrs. Garcia, witnesses told the Legislative Conference, "in nickles and dimes."

MAR 14 1941

Vito Marcantonio, head of the International Labor Defense and chairman of the meeting at which Garcia's story was told, vowed immediate and thoroughgoing action Friday's mass meeting, which will be held at 8:30 P. M. at the Mutualista Obrero Puertoriquenos 105th St. and Third Ave., will be the second of the kind.

Times-Picayune
New Orleans, La.

ALLEGED BEATING OF NEGRO WOMAN PUT BEFORE JURY

Two Detectives Deny Accusations of Striking and Kicking MAR 1 3 1941

The Orleans parish grand jury Wednesday was investigating charges against Detectives William Grosch and Andrew Arnold in connection with the alleged beating of Daisy Powell, 35-year-old Negro, 1218 South Rampart street, following her arrest on the night of February 9.

The Powell woman, who claims to have been the common-law wife of Wilbert Smith, alias Wilbur Moore, Negro, 37, who was shot and killed by Detective Grosch on January 15 when he allegedly attempted to escape, charged in a complaint to District Attorney J. Bernard Cocke that she was beaten and kicked in the stomach by Detectives Grosch and Arnold and told she had to leave town. MAR 1 3 1941

The woman charged that she was arrested from a saloon at 336 South Rampart street, placed in a police car and taken to Broad and Gravier streets, where she was beaten. She said she was confined at the Flint-Goodridge hospital for more than a week.

Charges Denied
Detectives Grosch and Arnold in answering the complaint denied arresting or beating the woman. Captain Edward DeLake commander of the First Precinct station, reported that he arrested the Powell woman on a charge of drunkenness when she came into the police station and asked for Detectives Arnold and Grosch. She was paroled at 4 a. m. the next day.

The alleged beating of the Powell woman was called to the attention of District Attorney Cocke by representatives of several Negro organizations. The prosecuting attorney said he decided to place the case before the grand jury. MAR 1 3 1941

Representatives of Negro organizations protested to Attorney General Eugene Stanley of the killing of Moore, and District Attorney Cocke now is conducting an investigation of the slaying. Last week the Negro's body was exhumed and Dr. C. Grenes Cole, coroner, reported that Moore died from a pistol wound of the head. The coroner said there were no

other marks or violence on the Negro's body.

Killing Investigated

The grand jury also investigated a murder charge against Freddie Baptiste, Negro, 24, 2904 Belmont Place, for the slaying on Mardi Gras Day of Preston Spears, 49, Negro, owner of a saloon at 3310 South Claiborne avenue. Spears was shot six times in the chest and abdomen when he tried to eject Baptiste from the saloon, police said.

Testimony in connection with the alleged assault on a young Negro woman on February 19 by Robert Young, Negro, 35, also was heard by the jury.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

FLORIDA TEACHER BEATEN BY COP

MAR 2 2 1941

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla., March 20 (AP)—Miss Alzeta Hargray, local school teacher was brutally beaten by an enraged patrolman Sunday afternoon when she objected to his method of arresting an alleged traffic law violator.

According to witnesses, the young woman accompanied by her sister-in-law came upon a group of white persons standing around watching Patrolman Verne Goodbread beating Andrew Jamison into insensibility. Her remark: "Isn't there some other way to arrest that man without beating him in that way?" caused Goodbread to turn to her, knocking her down in the street and kicking her. MAR 2 2 1941

Miss Hargray's brother, Mose, came up and demanded that the officer stop beating his sister. Witnesses say the brother had a knife in his hand. Miss Annie Mae Roundtree, who had been observing the scene from her car, approached the group and was arrested along with Miss Hargray, her brother, and her sister-in-law.

Jamison, badly bruised and swollen as a result of the beating given him by the officer, was fined \$115 for reckless driving and assaulting an officer. The others were held under \$200 bond, and at the hearing Tuesday were fined \$50 each.

Washington Post
Washington, D. C.

Four Witnesses Say Two Policemen Beat Colored Man

MAR 2 1 1941

Four witnesses in the District Court yesterday identified Patrolmen Henry J. Martin and James E. Stabler, of the Third Precinct, as the officers who beat a colored man in the Foggy Bottom section last Labor Day night.

Luther Sockwell, 37, colored, 815½ S Street Northwest, told a jury before Justice James W. Morris that the officers attacked him without provocation. Abner Lewis, 522 Twenty-third Street Northwest, and three others corroborated Stockwell's story. MAR 2 1 1941

Assistant District Attorney Allen J. Krouse rested the Government's case late yesterday. Defense testimony will begin today.

The policemen are accused in eight other indictments of attacks on colored persons. They have been suspended since complaints were filed against them.

Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla.

Florida School Teacher Beaten By Police

MAR 2 2 1941

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swollen as a result of the beating given him by the officer, was fined \$115 for reckless driving and assaulting an officer. The others were held under \$200 bond, and at the hearing Tuesday were fined \$50 each.

Columbus Ga. Enquirer-Sun
March 23, 1941

Georgia's Chains Rattle Again

The committee of the Georgia House of Representatives which on Friday recommended new prison rules to assure "humane" punishment of prisoners, in a report following inquiry into the alleged cruel treatment of a convict, is to be heartily commended as having rendered a service of real value to the people of our state.

After all the long years of dealing with penal questions and problems, there are still those in the prison system of Georgia who regard punishment as almost the sole function of jails, convict camps and penitentiaries. They do not give recognition to the large part that reformation should play.

Punishment, of course, does have a place. But it requires more wisdom to punish a person the warden and the convicts who had been justly than to do almost anything else. The confined in the cell. The state authorities fact is that the head of our penitentiary system no doubt will make a thorough investigation should be a man like the president of a union of this incident and the guilty officers versity or the chancellor himself. He should probably will be discharged from service, but be a trained and versed penologist, and all down nothing can be done to atone for this misline only persons who are students of penal carriage of justice which bears a striking questions and problems should be permitted to resemblance to the Black Hole of Calcutta. have charge of prisoners. Any other plan is not only barbarous; it is really dangerous to the welfare of society itself.

When society locks up a burglar, for instance, it hopes that when he comes out he will not be a burglar. But if nothing but punishment is meted out to him, he will come out embittered against society, regarding it as his enemy, and will be all the more a burglar.

The trouble may be that society tries to hide its sins by erecting stone walls around them, or putting them in chains, where it can straightforward forget them.

But it should never forget that whenever it sentences a man or woman to prison or prison camp, it thenceforth possesses a greater responsibility toward him than ever. Having confined him, society is then responsible for all the things that happen to that person and in large for the kind of mind and heart he has when he comes out.

Turn your prisons over to politics instead of the penologist and you have a damnable and disgraceful situation out of which will come just such cruelty as the House committee has found.

Spartanburg S. C. Herald

August 16, 1941

Inhuman Treatment

Another convict scandal besmirches the penal system of the state of Georgia. At the Trenton camp 25 prisoners refused to work and went on a sit-down strike. The warden said the prisoners threatened him and a guard with rocks and three of the strikers were wounded by revolver shots. After that the remaining 22 strikers were crowded into a small cell, 7 by 7½ feet, for twelve hours during which time one of them died, the officials disregarding the warning of the prisoners that the man was dying.

The coroner of the county in which this outrage was perpetrated assembled a jury which declared that the victim, Lewis Gordon, a Negro, "came to his death due to cruel and inhuman treatment in the hands of the warden of this camp." The decision of the jury was based upon questions asked those in the prison system of Georgia who regard punishment as almost the sole function of jails, convict camps and penitentiaries. They do not give recognition to the large part that reformation should play.

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15-1941

POLICE BRUTALITY

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Mo. Governor Will Consider Brutal Cases Complaints Registered By Delegation

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (AP)—After a delegation of 20 persons had appeared before him with complaints of alleged police brutality in Kansas City, Gov. Donnell issued a statement to the fact that he would give serious thought to the complaints. His agreement to look into the matter came after an hour and a half discussion with the delegation concerning series of incidents involving reported ill treatment of Negro citizens.

Spokesmen for the group, the Rev. D. A. Holmes, Carl V. Johnson, lawyer; and T. B. Watkins, undertaker—all of Kansas City—gave the governor a report of the Autumn Leaf club raid and slaying last month and presented a detailed list of grievances. The delegation reported that the Negroes of Kansas City had lost all confidence in members of the police board, with the exception of Harry M. Gambrel, a recent appointee of Gov. Donnell. No specific request for dismissal of any member of the board was made, but the governor said he was given to understand from the tenor of the suggestions made that such a course would be welcomed.

SEP 3 1941
DONNELL CONCERNED

Stating that the number of police officers had dropped from 46 to the present 10 since the police board took over control of the department, the delegation was reported to have said in a statement, "The Negroes of Kansas City need the police

force and the police force needs the Negroes." But under the present regime, the Negro population of Kansas City has developed distrusts of the department.

Although the governor has received several confidential reports on the situation, this is the first open complaint made. It has been made known that the chief executive is much concerned with the problem. He has, however, no definite plans for combating the situation, other than that a probe will be instigated.

Members of the board can be removed only by charges against them have been filed, but Gov. Donnell can request resignations if he decides to reorganize the board. Such resignations are usually handed in.

The Daily Worker New York, N. Y. **'Confession' to Be Probed by Negro Group**

AUG 30 1941
**Negro Congress Pushes
Fight on Capital
Police Brutality**

Daily Worker Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 29.—John P. Davis, secretary of the National Negro Congress, revealed today that his organization would investigate the alleged confession of Edward J. Kelly, 38-year-old Negro, to six recent sex murders in the Capital.

At the same time the Citizens Committee Against Police Brutality in Washington announced a city-wide conference to protest police terror against Negroes on Sunday, Sept. 7.

AUG 30 1941
Recent provocative acts by Washington police, including the killing of five Negroes and the beating and intimidation of many more, has made many groups here suspicious of the alleged Kelly confession which was produced by the police after an all-day grilling.

Corruption and incompetence in the Washington police force has

become so rampant that former Chief Major Ernest Brown was forced to resign and other officials have also been shifted from their posts.

AUG 30 1941

WIDE TERROR

In an apparent effort to cover up its unpalatable record including several unsolved murders, the police force has unleashed within recent weeks a reign of terror against the Negro population.

The police terror has been aided and abetted by reactionary Congressmen such as Rep. John Rankin of Mississippi who made a speech on the House floor on Aug. 14 which was a virtual incitement to violence against the Negro people.

It will be recalled that Rankin a few months ago made a vicious anti-Semitic speech on the House floor which was answered in an impassioned address by Rep. J. Michael Edelstein of New York—who died a few minutes later of heart attack.

The Citizens Committee Against Police Brutality declared in its call to the Sept. 7 conference:

"Brutality against Negro citizens in the nation's Capital is a threat to every Negro, every trade union member, every national religious and political minority group throughout the United States."

AUG 30 1941
"Poll-tax Congressmen, fearing the march of democracy, encourage and support this terror. They undermine the very foundations of democracy."

Sponsors of the conference include U. Simpson Tate of the National Association of Colored People; George Goodman, president of the Urban League; Rev. M. Cecil Mills of the First Baptist Church; Rev. Thomas Freeman, the National Negro Congress; the Washington Committee for Democratic Action; the CIO Industrial Union Council; United Shoe Workers Local 136 and Cafeteria Workers Local 471.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Shoot Negro Sep 1 1941 Tenant As Cop Terror Increases

Sep 1 1941
**Constable Shoots Victim
in Philadelphia
Courtroom**

(Special to the Daily Worker)

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 31.—Police terror against the Negro population of Philadelphia reached another ghastly climax here this week when 35-year old James Gunn was shot in the leg by Constable John Capitola.

Mr. Gunn, together with his wife, were the defendants in an eviction proceedings in Magistrate Panetta's court. Capitola was a witness against them. While Mrs. Gunn was testifying, her husband attempted to come to her aid and the magistrate ordered him ejected. Gunn protested and was beaten by Constable Salvator De Napoli and Capitola, who set upon him with a blackjack.

FIES THREE SHOTS

Gunn snatched the blackjack and ran from the court room. Capitola fired three times, striking twice. Mr. Gunn is now in Mt. Sinai Hospital.

Magistrate Panetta refused to answer questions put to him by reporters about the shooting, ordering them out of his office and declaring:

"I didn't see it. I didn't see what happened." SEP 1 1941
Widespread protest is developing around the Gunn case, which dramatizes the bitter housing condi-

tions of Philadelphia's 200,000 Negroes. The population is demanding the full prosecution of Capitola.

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

Symptoms of Deeper Ills

Lewis Gordon, Negro convict at the Rising Fawn camp in Dade county, is dead. He was smothered when he and 21 other prisoners were kept in a "sweat box," measuring only 7½ feet in each dimension, for seven or eight hours.

The coroner's jury found that Gordon came by his death "due to cruel and inhuman treatment at the hands of the warden of this camp."

The warden, C. A. Jacobson, has been fired by the State Prison and Patrol Board. The sheriff of Dade county has said he will take no further action in the case, leaving it to the September grand jury to indict warden if it desires.

A joint committee from both houses of the state legislature had visited the Rising Fawn camp last Monday and reported it found conditions there "very bad." Convicts to whom the committee members had spoken voiced fears for their safety if they told what they knew. Committee members later recognized these convicts among the 22 who had been incarcerated in that "sweat box."

The legislative committee also visited the camp at Sparta and stated, after investigation, that a Negro convict there, Flam Bell, died as the result of a beating.

These horrors have shocked every decent person in Georgia. They uncover conditions which most people had believed had long been abolished. Whipping of convicts and the use of barbarous modes of punishment, such as the "sweat boxes" were believed to have been forbidden in Georgia prisons and convict camps many years ago.

Undoubtedly many prisoners are difficult to control. It is explained that the outrage at the Dade county camp followed a mutiny by 25 convicts, three of whom were shot and wounded by the warden and a guard. A member of the State Prison Board has advised convicts against further mutinies, telling them to write any com-

plaints they have to make to the board. Whether or not such written complaints would receive adequate attention, however, is to be doubted. Also it is difficult for a Negro prisoner, not unlikely an illiterate, to write a convincing letter and, having written it, to make sure it is properly addressed and mailed.

What must be remembered by Georgians, if such outrages as these are not to recur, is that they are, actually, only the symptom of a deep-rooted disease.

AUG 18 1941

Regardless of the crime committed, when the state takes charge of a convict, it not only assumes a responsibility to society, to see that convict serves his term in accordance with the orders of the court. It assumes, also, a responsibility to the convict himself. That responsibility includes the duties of maintaining him in good health, of providing him with proper opportunities for reformation and of protecting him against such brutalities as have occurred at Sparta and in Dade county.

Primarily it is the duty of the State Prison and Parole Board to see that Georgia prisons and camps are properly and humanely conducted. It is the duty of that board to remember, at all times, its responsibility to the prisoners as well as to the state at large.

There are many well-run, humane convict camps in Georgia. But there are too many where prisoners are treated like vicious animals and where brutalities and tortures reminiscent of the middle ages are still practiced.

Such things as "sweat boxes" are beyond the pale in a civilized state. They should be, and must be, abolished at once. Together with any other instruments of torture of like severity.

Birmingham, Ala. News

August 16, 1941

Inhuman Practices Uncovered In Georgia Prison Camp Inquiry

Warden Dismissed As Legislators Examine Two Convict Deaths

ATLANTA—(P)—A joint legislative committee reported Friday that it had uncovered severe beatings and inhuman use of a sweatbox at the state convict camp near Rising Fawn and called for a Grand Jury investigation of two deaths there.

In a report to the Prison and Parole Commission, it also recommended that Camp Warden C. A. Jacobson, "be immediately suspended and any other guards responsible for this brutal treatment."

Their report also found "strong evidence" that a Negro prisoner at the state convict camp near Sparta "came to his death by a severe whipping by a person known as Boss Alvin Johnson."

They urged an inquest be held into the death of the Negro, Flam Bell, who was serving a life term for murder.

The legislators recommended the immediate suspension of Johnson and Dr. E. H. Hutchings, camp physician, and "any other camp officials of the Sparta camp connected with this brutal treatment."

The committee said it had found conditions at the camp near Rising Fawn "in a very bad state," adding "several prisoners have been severely beaten and numerous others kept in a sweatbox beyond the length of time that would be humane treatment to anyone."

They quoted the camp physician, Dr. S. B. Kitchens, as saying the prisoners were overworked and underfed.

The committee said investigations would be made at other camps, before submitting recommendations, for changes in the general penal system. They asserted, however, that these recommendations would include abolition of the "sweat box."

Before the committee made its report, Chairman Clem Rainey announced that Warden Jacobson had been dismissed and that Hubert Smith, a brother of Representative H. V. Smith, of Barrow County, and a member of the House penitentiary committee, would serve until affairs at the camp had been straightened out.

The deaths at the Rising Fawn camp to which the committee referred were those of Lewis Gordon, a Negro serving a life term for murder, and Arvie Moore, a white misdemeanor prisoner.

Moore was shot May 26, but the legislative committee said it was unable to determine the exact circumstances since camp officials maintained he was killed while trying to escape and other prisoners testified he was shot when he "fell out."

A number of the prisoners, the committee said, seemed "to fear to talk to us freely." They quoted one convict as saying that "they will kill us for talking to you after you leave."

Atlanta, Ga. Journal
August 17, 1941

Prison 'Shakeup' Looms In Probe Into Brutality

Wholesale Dismissal and Criminal Action Against Guilty Officials Indicated by Officials

The revelation of stark brutality at Rising Fawn Prison Camp, it was indicated Saturday, has set in motion investigations which may result in wholesale dismissal of penal officials and criminal trials for those against whom charges of extreme cruelty can be proved.

Representative John L. Mavity, expected to go into the slaying several weeks ago near the camp of Walker County, vice chairman of the joint Legislative Penitentiaries Committee, insisted that every official found to have had a hand in brutality at Rising Fawn, located high on Lookout Mountain, be dismissed.

Mr. Mavity was also preparing to make a swing through the state weeks ago at the Sparta state camp of a Negro convict named Flam Bell, after uncovering "strong evidence he died from a severe whipping." Suspension of officials there has been asked by the committee.

Will File Reports

Senator R. E. Cannon, of Clay- tive Committee on Prisons would ton, has announced the Legis- file a general report with the State Prison Commission after fur- ther investigation. He said it would urge abolition of "sweat boxes" and a general revision in the system.

The commission's chairman, Clem Rainey, and Commissioner Royal Mann were reported Saturday to be out of town on an investigation into the escape of seven convicts from the Dallas camp. The fugitives included Forrest Turner and S. J. Scarborough, notorious escapes.

Solicitor J. H. Paschall, of the Cherokee Circuit, has announced he would go to Trenton Monday to go further into affairs at Rising Fawn. If reports of brutality there are found to be correct, he said he will ask the arrest of ousted Warden C. A. Jacobson on a murder charge pending convening of the Dade County grand jury the third Monday in September.

Verdict of Cruelty

Warden Jacobson was fired by the Prison Commission after a coroner's jury investigated the death of Lewis Gordon, 25, Negro lifer. Gordon and 21 other Negroes had been held in a 7½-foot square sweatbox. The coroner returned a verdict of cruel and inhuman treatment after testimony revealed wholesale beatings and the shooting of three prisoners.

The Dade grand jury also is ex-

of which proved fatal at Rising Fawn, are contrived out of "solitary-confinement chambers," approved by the Prison Commission, it was pointed out.

By covering the "solitary cells" with tar paper, constructing them out of galvanized iron sheets, and placing them in the sunniest spot in the prison yards, wardens in many camps have contrived to turn them into sweat boxes.

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

Death Of Convict In Georgia

Punishment Cell Is Probed

TRENTON, GA., Aug. 14.—(P)—The death of one of 22 negro convicts locked for 12 hours in a tiny building brought official blame to a warden today and spurred new inquiry into Georgia's much-investigated penal system.

Dade County Coroner W. A. Tidwell said an investigation by lantern light last midnight in the yard of Rising Fawn State Highway Prison Camp, ended when the jury decided the negro, Lewis Gordon, 40, "came to his death due to cruel and inhuman treatment in the hands of the warden of this camp."

He said the warden, C. A. Jacobson, told the jury the negroes were confined in the 7 by 7 1-2-foot cell after they

staged a sit-down strike and advanced on him and a guard, armed with rocks. No criminal charges have been filed against the warden.

The inquiry was touched off when State Prison Investigator Claude Mayne, riding to the camp for a routine checkup, met a hearse bearing the body of the negro. He ordered the hearse back to the camp.

The investigation was taken up today by the State Prison and Parole Commission headed by Clem E. Rainey, assisted by Representative John L. Mavity, chairman of the State legislative penitentiary committee.

A disturbance preceded mass punishment, Coroner Tidwell said and "three of the prisoners were shot and wounded and the remaining 22 of the original 25 were crowded into the small building Tuesday at 11 a.m. and held there until 11 p.m. that night."

The body of the negro, who was a life-timer, was placed on a box in the illuminated prison yard, while jurors questioned the warden and the convicts who had been confined in the thick-walled darkened cell.

15-1941

POLICE BRUTALITY

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

FASCISM... AMERICAN STYLE... 1941

EMPLOYMENT BUREAU? APR 5 1941

Here's Cheap Way For City To Get Labor

APR 5 1941

They need about 10 negroes for City

Jail Prison Gang.

FE Nelson
Inspector F. E. Nelson
Uniform Radio Division

The above is a reproduction of an order issued by Police Inspector F. E. Nelson to two policemen on the Miami (Fla.) force, recently. It was not allowed to be introduced in an investigation into police brutality, terrorism and bribery conducted last week by the city attorney's office. The probe followed an expose by the Miami Herald, a daily newspaper, which published the above order and demanded an investigation into the inhuman practice of rounding up gangs of innocent Negroes whenever the city had a job to do and did not want to hire workmen. APR 5 1941

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Police Roundup Negroes For Forced Labor Gangs

APR 5 - 1941

APR 5 - 1941

MIAMI, Fla., Apr. 3—The most startling evidence of police methods in dealing with Negro citizens was not per-

mitted to be introduced during the probe into police brutality and Inspector F. E. Nelson and ad-

vised now underway in this city. The investigation is being con-

ducted by members of the city at- torney's staff and followed an ex-

posed policy to seize Negroes with-

out any provocation, lock them up

department. The inquiry got under way last Tuesday and according to Director of Public Safety Reynolds,

FORCED LABOR ISSUE IGNORED

The Herald printed a photostat "law" enforcement has not been introduced. The Herald, in an edi-

torial said, "Such a departure from

common decency demands a little

read: "They need about 10 Ne-

groes for city jail prison gang." Three prisoners were called as

witnesses and gave testimony of

of a brutal beating by Miami cops.

Director Reynolds said his hands were tied in the matter of dealing with brutality and inefficiency in his department. He cited an order issued to Police Chief H. Leslie Quigg to change the policemen assigned to beats in the Negro section. This order was ignored by Chief Quigg and the "tough" cops still patrol the colored section bashing in heads, beating, shooting and otherwise intimidating the populace.

The Miami Herald's editorial of last Thursday said:

POLICE METHODS

"More revelatory of police methods, perhaps, than is the testimony of brutality that featured yesterday's hearings, was that reproduction in the Herald of an order signed by Inspector F. E. Nelson, which read:

"They need about 10 Negroes for city jail prison gang."

"Time was when whole communities condoned forced labor, praised the sheriff in rural counties who rounded up all hoboes he could find and put them to work on roads. APR 5 - 1941

"But those callous days passed, happily, as civilization advanced, and people became more aware of the humanities of life.

"Inspector Nelson's note indicates that it is settled police policy to seize Negroes for labor purposes, instead of hiring workmen.

"Such a departure from common decency demands a little investigation, too."

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Citizens Protest Beating

Attack Is Called

"Unwarranted
And Inhuman

APR 12 1941

BULLETIN

RALEIGH, N. C.—Officer N. E. Canady was suspended Monday by Commissioner of

Public Safety R. C. Rowell pending investigation by the Civil Service Commission. The action followed a protest by local colored citizens that the mauling of Private Harold Daniels was "unwarranted and inhuman".

By A. A. MORISEY
Staff Correspondent

RALEIGH, N. C.—Warm indignation spread like wild fire following the blackjack mauling of Private Harold Daniels, 76th Coast Artillery, Battery C, 1st Battalion, Fort Bragg, N. C., by Officer N. E. Canady, Saturday afternoon at the union bus station, here. APR 12 1941

Local citizens and organizations lost no time in making an investigation of the incident and demanding the suspension of the officer pending a thorough investigation.

Most vehement in protest of the fray which was described as "inhuman", was Mrs. Jean LeGarde, white, an eyewitness, who went immediately to the police station to voice her resentment.

"He wore my country's uniform, and I think he should have received better treatment", Mrs. LeGarde said in an interview. "I have two sons in the service and I know if anybody treats them like that I would be willing to kill him." "I just couldn't stand to see that uniform lying there in the dirt".

HIT WHILE GROGGY

After striking Private Daniels the first time, she said, the officer hit him again as the soldier, trying to get up, wobbled groggily, after which he went down and stayed until moved by officers.

Private Daniels received a two and-a-half inch gash on his head from the blackjack, a cut lip and two broken teeth. The stubs of these teeth and a portion of the jawbone were removed Sunday. APR 12 1941

ARGUED WITH C. BIES

Private Daniels told the Journal and Guide from his bed at St. Agnes Hospital that he was accompanied by another soldier and a young lady and that the argument began when they proceeded to get into a cab of the Strop Taxi Company. The driver remarked, "We don't ride Niggers." One insult led to another and Officer Canady, on duty at the station was

alled.

Rather than advise a settlement of the dispute, Private Daniels said the officer declined to interfere. The cabbies, becoming more and more incensed, agitated, "Hit the Nigger." The officer then grabbed Private Daniels by his Sam Brown belt.

At the question, "Am I supposed to be under arrest?" the officer answered "Yes." Private Daniels then asked to be released saying, "I'm not going to run away" and attempted to force the officer's hands from his. Then he was hit with the blackjack.

Private Daniels declared he was never unconscious and remained on the ground to prevent further assault. While lying there, he said, one of the officers searched him and removed a knife from his pocket.

APR 12 1941

Wesley Gargin, driver of the cab, described the soldier as being, "drunk with wine and whiskey." Five or more of the cab drivers gather around the station to collaborate in the interview with the Journal and Guide representative. They said that the private wanted to fight and offered to "go anybody a couple of rounds." They alleged that the soldier drew out a knife and threatened to cut them whereupon they called a police who was inside the station.

CITIZENS WRITE PROTEST

The Negro Citizens' Committee, representing twenty organized groups, "demanded" the suspension of the officer, in a letter to R. C. Powell, commissioner of public safety. The letter said, "After a careful investigation, we find that this assault was unwarranted and inhuman. We are, therefore, asking the immediate suspension of Patrolman Canady until this matter has been investigated by your office."

APR 12 1941

"Because of the sentiment which has been aroused over this brutal assault by an officer in your department we are forced to make his request in the interest of the good name of our city."

MEET DEPARTMENTAL LEADS

Arriving at the office of the Commissioner Powell about the same time as the letter Monday morning was a committee of ten citizens who protested the action and urged that appropriate action be taken by the commissioner. The group was heard also by Captain Nathaniel Warren, acting chief of police, who also assured that every attempt would be made to assure justice. Both welcomed any additional information in the case that might be uncovered.

Mr. Powell said that a thorough investigation had been launched and action would be held pending its outcome.

The victim is a native of Camden, N. J., and had been stationed at Fort Bragg for eight months. His companion was Edward Hall and the name of their lady friend was not learned.

The police official report on the case said Daniels received "abrasions" on the head but neglected to say that Canady administered the "abrasions."

TO CHARGE DISORDERLY CONDUCT

Police said that Daniels would be charged with disorderly conduct and assault upon an officer with a deadly weapon, upon his release from the hospital.

Hospital attendants said that they were informed by long distance telephone conversation with officials at Fort Bragg that an investigation would be made.

Striking a note for morale in these times of defense preparations, the Local News and Observer concluded a long editorial, Monday morning with the following:

APR 12 1941

"So far as a skull is concerned it makes no difference whether blackjack brutality is resorted to by a man in a brown shirt or a blue coat. It does not make any difference whether it occurs in Raleigh or Rotterdam. The defenders of decency in democracy — and their mothers and fathers — have a right to a faith in its existence here before they fight for it far away. Raleigh by its impartiality, by its insistence on absolute justice in this case has a job to do for the country in building that faith and a duty to do it wise, fairly, in patriotism above both prejudice and politics."

In an open letter to Commissioner Powell, W. R. Johnson, consultant on Negro work, State Board of Charities and Public Welfare, voiced the stand of the State Commission on Interracial Cooperation, the Governor's Commission on Interracial Cooperation, the Governor's Commission on National Defense, and his agency.

Mr. Johnson said, "Incidents of this sort can only widen the breach between the races and cause totalitarian powers to say to us, 'clean up your own back yards before telling us what to do.'

Southern News
Almanac
Birmingham, Ala.

Committee Against Police Brutality Is Organized

MAY 15 1941

A permanent committee against police brutality was set up at a meeting Friday night in the Negro Masonic Temple. Temporary officers elected were Pernell Collins, temporary chairman; Ed Lowery, vice-chairman; Annie Echols, secretary, and Virgil Moncrief, treasurer.

The immediate purpose of the committee is to dig out and bring before the people the true story of the killing of John Jackson, young Negro steel worker, by the Fairfield police on the night of April 26.

The committee adopted a petition, which will be circulated in the thousands of copies throughout the Birmingham district, demanding the arrest and trial of Policeman Alexander for the killing of John Jackson and that an indemnity of \$5,000 be paid by the City of Fairfield to Jackson's family. The petition is addressed to Robert H. Jackson, United States Attorney General, Frank M. Dixon and to Mayor Gilley, of Gilley, of Fairfield.

Negro and white workers are participating in the committee and police brutality is denounced as an effort to pit Negro against the white and weaken labor organizations. The committee is laying the groundwork for holding in Fairfield in the near future a giant protest mass meeting. The Fairfield CIO Hall has been secured for this purpose. Thousands of circulars advertising the meeting will be distributed.

Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla.

TRANSCRIPT FINISHED IN LYONS CASE

The Oklahoma Conference of Branches inched a step further this week when the transcript of the record in the W. D. Lyons case was handed to Editor Roscoe Dunjee, by the clerk of the court in Choctaw County, and Attorney Stanley Belden, Cushing, defense attorney in the case immediately secured service on the court officials at Hugo.

Attorney Belden and legal assistants in the National office of the N.A.A.C.P. began Monday to

parish late last Friday.

Relative to the incident, it was reported that Mrs. Akins was in her yard when the officers rode up and inquired, "Is this where Ashbury lives?"

MAY 6 - 1941

The woman was reputed to have answered, "no," and was asked by the inquiring officer, "do you mean to say 'no' to me?"

She answered, "yes."

Because of this the officer was said to have alighted from the car and slapped Mrs. Akins, who fought back and was beating the officer in the struggle when the two companions joined the fray and beat her about the head with their service revolvers. The woman, bloody and with clothes torn to shreds, was slapped into jail.

Two other cars, allegedly carrying ten officers, arrested Mrs. Akins' brother Joseph Winsey, and Mrs. Fannie Winsey, the beaten woman's mother. All were reportedly held incommunicado overnight.

MAY 6 - 1941

The arrests and assault were said to have been the outgrowth of difficulties between white children and Negro children on their way from school. Three of the four Negro children involved were reportedly jailed also, but they were released without charges.

Petitions of protest have been filed by the Baton Rouge Branch NAACP, Methodist Ministers' Alliance and the Baton Rouge Press Club.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Petitions of Protest Are Filed

MAY 6 - 1941

Beaten Because She Said "No"

To Policemen

BATON ROUGE, La. — (ANP) — Outraged because of the most brutal and unwarranted beatings of a woman that has occurred here in generations, Negro citizens are heatedly protesting the assault on Mrs. Florida Akins by three alleged deputy sheriffs of West Baton Rouge

15-1941

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Federal Judge Orders Mistrial

FEB 21 1941

By ROBERT M. RATCLIFFE

Twelve tired jurors marched into Federal Judge Marvin Underwood's court room Thursday afternoon at 4:30 o'clock — to give an account of themselves.

The judge sent for them after several jurors had asked permission to send for clean clothes and toilet articles.

He figured it had been 30 hours since they began deliberating the fate of Policeman W. F. Sutherland, who went on trial Monday of last week on a charge of violating the civil rights of Quintar South, 16, by torturing him with a hot iron.

NO AGREEMENT

He asked the foreman of the jury if there were any prospects of a verdict. The foreman gave a negative answer, declaring that the jurors were as far from a decision as they were Wednesday night when the 12 white jurymen retired to a hotel for the night.

"I always hesitate to declare a mistrial, especially when the trial is such a long one," Judge Underwood said, "but in a case like this when the jurors appear unable to reach a verdict, there is nothing else to do."

FEB 21 1941

Sutherland and legal representatives for the Government and defense agreed with the judge, although each said he wished a verdict could be reached.

Judge Underwood then declared a mistrial, withdrawing the case from the hands of the jury.

A score of colored and white spectators remained stationed near the jury room during the day.

LEFT HOTEL AT 8

The jurors left their hotel rooms Thursday morning at 8 o'clock, had breakfast, and returned to the jury room in the old Federal Building and deliberated until 7:45 p. m. when they were carried to dinner. They returned an hour later and

ernment witnesses said they saw raw wounds on the boy's body.

The Federal indictment charged Sutherland with depriving South of his "privilege of equal protection of the law and immunity from illegal assault, battery and torture."

Judge Underwood ruled out the second count of the three-count indictment.

Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla.

What's Behind National Wave of Police Brutality?

WASHINGTON (P) — An alarming situation exists throughout the country if reports current in Negro newspapers are to be taken as a criterion of what is happening. Police brutality, long thought localized to certain communities, has reared its ugly head in so many sections of the country it raises a question. What is behind all of this unnecessary evil?

Here in Washington, there are constant protests and mass meetings being held asking that police brutality be halted.

A mild case persists in Philadelphia, where colored citizens are making the same demands.

Kansas City is having its troubles; Texas has sent out a cry that police are unusually brutal in certain sections of that state, and all of it, according to the press, is aimed at the colored citizens of the communities.

Is this unusual wave of brutality due to some secret move afoot to terrorize Negroes as in the days of the Ku Klux Klan? Is it an organized effort to put the Negro in his place? Whatever that may be?

Or is it due to the economic situation where Negroes are pushing further ahead to the chagrin and fear of the whites, who do their dirt behind policemen's uniforms?

Over a widespread area, this has come to pass in a short time, according to news reports. And no section of the country is safe from the viciousness of the attacks on colored citizens.

POLICE BRUTALITY

Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla.

Defense Funds For Civil Rights

MAR 22 1941

Southeastern Oklahoma has up to date raised more than \$500 in the defense of W. D. Lyons. This writer returned Sunday from that section where last week we assisted in raising \$168. During the week of the trial this same section raised \$322. It shows the possibilities of organization.

Oklahoma has not been as state minded regarding this case as it should be. While some money has trickled into Dr. Bullock's hands, the amounts are in no wise comparable with the funds raised in the Jess Hollins case, and for the Wagoner county election case.

Attorney Amos Hall launched a fight for a Negro youth at Perry last week. Funds had to be sent him to assist in the expens[es] and he has had to use personal funds to carry on. This should not be. Branches over the state should attempt along during the year to hold mass meetings at which time funds should be raised to be used in underwriting state issues.

Branches over the state that die, enter into lifelessness because they have no program. A live mass meeting occasionally, during which state issues are discussed and supported, would create fire and enthusiasm that would carry over to local issues. It is a foolish notion local leaders have which would overlook state and national problems.

MAR 22 1941

Dr. Williamston, regional director of the southeastern area, has performed a superb task in the Lyons case. He promises to raise all of the money needed for the transcript before the state meeting. But there is yet lawyer fees to pay and other incidental expenses which must be cared for: Do the state branches assume that Dr. Williamston should raise all of this money?

The Black Dispatch is hoping that all of the branches over the state will hold mass meetings at once, at which time the public can have an opportunity to contribute to the much needed Lyons defense, and to the defense of the youth at Perry.

In addition, public-minded persons who desire to contribute to such causes, should send their contributions to the Black Dispatch. We will acknowledge receipt of such amounts in our columns and forward same to Dr. W. A. J. Bullock, state treasurer. Dr. Bullock will send a receipt direct to such persons.

The culmination of such acts of violence, certain sections of the country are patterning their police behavior after other more vicious sections to the utter ruin of the Negro.

But the Negroes are not crying wolf—they are being victimized and resent it. The treatment is not in keeping with the Negroes' position as citizens of the United States.

Over a widespread area, this has come to pass in a short time, according to news reports. And no section of the country is safe from the viciousness of the attacks on colored citizens.

Federal Jurors Are Taken To Hotel After Lengthy Deliberation

Crowded Court Hears Judge Underwood Instruct Jurors On Charges of Government

FEB 20 1941

By ROBERT M. RATCLIFFE

Unable to reach a verdict after deliberating nearly nine hours, a Federal jury chosen to try the case of the Government versus W. F. Sutherland, Atlanta policeman charged with violating the "civil rights" of a 16-year-old colored boy, Quintar South, retired to a hotel Wednesday night at 9:10 o'clock.

They were carried to supper at the authority of a police officer." 7:15 p. m. and returned to the jury room an hour later.

Federal Judge E. Marvin Underwood gave court attaches orders early Wednesday evening to take the jurors to a hotel if they failed to reach a verdict at 9 p. m.

CONTINUE DELIBERATION TODAY

After breakfast this morning the 12 jurors more than likely will continue the deliberation until 10 a. m., at which time the judge is expected to call them back to the court room.

Every seat in the spacious court room had been taken by colored spectators and city policemen Wednesday morning when Judge Underwood began reading his charge to the jury.

He was 25 minutes instructing the jurors and while doing so directed them to find the defendant not guilty on count two of the three-count indictment. He told members of the jury to consider both circumstantial and direct evidence during their deliberation.

In the charge, he said, "The right of every one to protection from compulsory self-accusation is guaranteed by the United States Constitution."

"This right is violated when a state official attempts to extort a confession of guilty by threats, as-

Judge Underwood gave jurors privilege of sending messages to their homes. Several asked that their automobiles be placed in garages.

After the jury filed out of the court room Wednesday morning most of the colored spectators remained in their seats while nearly all of the police officers waited outside the hall near the jury room.

FEB 20 1941

The crowd began thinning out around 3 p. m., and there was only a small section of spectators at 5 p. m.

Defense Attorney Clint Hager was absent, due to illness.

Wednesday marked the eighth day of the trial which has attracted considerable attention throughout the city. Prominent among the colored witnesses were local ministers.

The case dates back to the latter part of 1939 when numerous burglaries were reported staged on the Clark University campus.

In the latter part of February, 1940, city policemen arrested a boy listed as Harold Williams. He is alleged to have confessed breaking into the Clark gymnasium and implicating Quintar South, John Biggs and Alphonso Jamerson.

BOYS JAILED

South, Biggs and Jamerson were jailed and each boy declared Police Officer Sutherland forced a confession from him. Biggs and Jamerson said they admitted entering the gym after Officer Sutherland slapped them.

South said he confessed after Sutherland slapped him, threatened to cut his fingers with a paper cutter and burned him on the neck and arm with a photographer's tacking iron.

The three boys said they were mistreated in a small room which joins the identification room at the City Jail.

Following a hearing in Recorder's Court, the boys were bound over to the Fulton grand jury and transferred to Fulton County jail.

Probation Officer J. N. Starnes said he was the first outsider to discover the raw wounds on South's body. He said he had two juveniles in his possession who were linked with the same burglaries and that he went to the county jail to question South, Jamerson and Biggs. It was during the investigation, he said, that the wounds were discovered.

FEB 20 1941

Officer Starnes declared he reported the incident to Juvenile Judge Watkin; after South told how he received the wounds. Mrs. C. E. Harrison, wife of a Southern

Bell Telephone Company executive, added momentum to the investigation, which resulted in the Fulton grand jury and a federal grand jury returning indictments against Sutherland.

The county indictment charged Sutherland with assault and battery, while the federal indictment accused Sutherland with violating the civil rights of South.

Sutherland was acquitted last June in a state court on the assault and battery charge.

In the meantime, South, Jamerson and Biggs were released from jail after charges against them had been nol prossed, it was reported.

In court last week, South's mother said he did not have the wounds on his body when policemen arrested him last February. The iron was tested to show that it had a heating element, and pictures of the boy's wounds were admitted as evidence.

Conflicting testimony was given by several defense witnesses concerning the whereabouts of Officer Sutherland the night South said he was burned with the iron.

News
Birmingham, Ala.

Voice Of The People

THE CITY POUND SHOOTING CASE

To the Editor The News APR 27 1941

In connection with the story carried in your paper Thursday, April 24, relative to the controversy arising between Nelson Hogan, Negro, of 524 South Sixty-Fourth Street, and employees of the City Pound, I do not feel that the public has been fully apprised of certain testimony that was brought out at the trial of Hogan on charges of disorderly conduct in City Recorder's Court Wednesday, April 23.

During the course of this trial numerous witnesses in Hogan's behalf testified that there was no disorderly conduct on Hogan's part whatsoever. Further testimony was given that the entire altercation took place after City Pound employees had invaded Hogan's property, and witnesses in Hogan's behalf stated that they saw two Negro City Pound employees striking Hogan with their loop sticks. Witnesses in Hogan's behalf further testified that he at all times merely tried to protect himself and never attempted to fight back. They further made statements that after the scuffle with the two Negroes in Hogan's front yard he was walking empty-handed and undefended along the side of his house when H. E. Stokes, white City Pound employee, jumped out of his truck and, without provocation and giving no warning, fired his pistol, shooting Hogan through the back. The newspaper account of Thursday stated that Hogan was "shot in the left arm and shoulder." According to the testimony given on the witness stand by Dr. T. H. Young, Hogan's attending physician, the Negro was shot in the back, the bullet passing through his body and into his left arm, resulting in four bullet holes. This testimony was undisputed. It was further brought out at the trial that when Hogan, after being shot, made no outcry other than to groan and questioned Stokes, "White folks, why did you have to shoot me?" Stokes' reply to this, as stated by witnesses, was: "If you move, I'll finish you."

APR 27 1941

It is true that City Pound employees disagreed on some of the above stated testimony, and the court no doubt took this into consideration. However, the fact remains that Hogan was shot in the back, and as a matter of fairness and justice to him I feel that a more complete account of Hogan's version and the version of numerous eye-witnesses in his behalf should have been more fully dealt with in your newspaper article relative to the matter.

Birmingham. MACDONALD GALLION.

15-1941

POLICE BRUTALITY

Black Dispatch

Oklahoma City, Okla.

Pan of Human Bones Used During Torture Confession; Court Hears of 'Nigger Club'

Sheriff Harmon Refuses To Recognize Or Identify His Own Photograph

Warden Denies Use of Force and Violence

FEB 8 - 1941

HUGO, Okla.—In a smoke filled court room, with school children and crying babies forming a large part of the audience, the State of Oklahoma rested at 4:30 this afternoon, in the trial of the W. D. Lyons.

A dramatic moment came in the court room this afternoon when Attorney Thurgood Marshall sent Vernie Cheatwood from the time the investigation started until sometime next from the room, after forty five minutes of questioning, shaking as though suffering from palsey.

Cheatwood, a special investigator from Governor Phillips office, man who the defense char-

beat and clubbed the confes-

ut of Lyons while in the jail. Lyons also alleges beatwood beat and clubbed ain while in the peniten-

Sent By Governor

Cheatwood said he entered the case at the request of Governor Phillips. He said that he had served as an investigator for six years, beginning under Governor William H. Murray.

"Do you carry around with you what you call a "Negro beater" demanded Marshall at the outset of his cross examination.

"No," said Cheatwood.

"Do you have a black jack" continued the defense attorney.

"No".

"Did you ever have a piece of leather with something in it that rattled" insisted Marshall.

"No" said Cheatwood with much heat.

Jerked Lyons Knee

Cheatwood said he saw Lyons then followed a line which would the first time in the Sheriff's office. When questioned by Mar been kept up all night and all day shall regarding the midnight investigation ending in the confes- without even getting a drink sion, Cheatwood said two or three

to be lifted to his feet because of the inhuman beating to which he was being subjected.

Admits Prison Confession

The evening session opened with Warden Jess Dunn on the stand, following the ruling of Judge Childers that the purported confession made at the state prison would be admitted. The judge had previously held with the defense that the first document signed by the defendant should be ruled out because it had been secured through "force and violence," but the judge reversed his previous ruling of the morning, during one of the clashes between opposing counsel, when he said,

"A state of mind may have been created when this boy was first beaten that would have caused him to make the latter confession.

Dunn positively denied, under stiff questioning that there had been any force or violence permitted at the penitentiary, while Lyons was there "He was just as cool when he made that statement as he is now," said Dunn.

Tells Motive for Slaying

Following the questioning of the warden County Attorney Norman Horton read the confession which it is alleged Lyons signed, and it was noted that the motive for the killing was fixed by the allegation that some one had said Elmer Rogers, the slain man had been gambling and had \$100.00 in the lonely cabin up at Fort Towson on the New Year's eve that two murderers invaded his home.

The defense scored heavily when Reeser Cain, former special officer for the Frisco, took the stand and when questioned closely admitted that the first confession was secured around four o'clock in the morning in the Hugo jail and that the evening of that same day the second confession was obtained in the state prison.

Saw "Long Nigger"

Howard Rorie, one of the officers who arrested Lyons said that when he went to the home to arrest Lyons "Some long nigger ran out into the bushes."

The state was halted for perhaps half hour when Attorney Marshall objected to Harvey Haw-

kins telling the jury what Lyons said to him at the time that an ax is alleged to have been discovered in the ashes of the burned cabin. Marshall said that any statement attributed to Lyons at that time was secured through force and violence.

"We object" said Marshall "to any statement or act of the defendant made on the scene of the crime, which was only a few hours following the confession you have over-ruled." FEB 8 - 1941

Identifys Ax

Hawkins, when questioned by the county attorney identified the ax, which the state alleges it found in the ashes of the home. Hawkins pointed to three chips in the rusty blade, and said he cleared the ashes back and found the blade which the state claims Lyons chopped and mutilated the bodies of Elmer Rogers and his wife.

Ray Dearing, a neighbor of Rogers, also identified the ax as having been the property of the dead man.

Tortured All Night

"There's the bones of the baby you burned up" is the language Roy Harmon said he used while during the midnight inquisition he placed charred bones of the Rogers family in Lyons lap. Harmon said this happened before the first confession. The defense in cross-examination followed a line of questioning to show that the defendant was kept up all night and later was taken to the scene of the crime.

Didn't Know Own Picture

Judge Childers had to admonish the crowd to be silent and threatened to clear the court room when Harmon, when handed a picture of himself, taken with Lyons and Cheatwood, on the afternoon of the day Lyons is alleged to have confessed, refused to identify himself.

When Marshall produced the picture the county attorney immediately leaped to his feet with numerous objections "That's nothing but a magazine picture and should not be introduced here," said Horton.

It was then that the audience laughed with Horton sitting on the stand looking at an enlarged

reproduction of the picture of Cheatwood, himself and Lyons refused to recognize himself.

"That looks a little like me but I'm not certain" said the former sheriff.

Kansas City. Call Kansas City, Mo.

Another Case of Police Brutality

FEB 21 1941

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—Work on a WPA project was practically stopped late Thursday evening near Independence and Harrison, when one of the workmen was allegedly manhandled by three officers riding in squad car No. 70.

According to eye witnesses to the melee, Willie Butts, the victim of alleged police brutality, was playing with another workman on the project when the police car stopped and officers questioned the men. Following this, according to men working on the project Butts was set upon by three policemen who beat him with blackjack.

With the attack, the man with whom he had been bidding asked the officers to refrain from the attack.

Butts resisted his being arrested before 4 o'clock. According to the workers, no person is to be taken from the job before this hour when he checks in. In this case, however, the foreman, allegedly turned the man over to the officers.

A crowd of about 50 persons quickly gathered near the scene and the man was taken to police headquarters.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Judge Flays D.C. Police For Brutal Methods

WASHINGTON, D. C.—General criticism of alleged recurrent rough tactics of the city's policemen was made by Judge George D. Neilson, last week as he dismissed a defendant who appeared in court with his head swathed in bandages to answer charges of disorderly conduct and assault.

The jurist dismissed the charges against Roosevelt Foster, 24, after a special policeman, Thomas R. Parks, arrested him in a restaurant.

Declaring about "two-thirds" of those arrested by special police are beaten up, Judge Neilson condemned the practice and said the regular

Metropolitan police rarely resort to such tactics.

Lyons' Confession Story Exposees Highway Patrol; Cheatwood Also Beat Negro

Defense Will Attempt To Show State Seeks To Hide
Loose System of Handling Convicts

Cheatwood and Dunn Barred From Courtroom

FEB 8 - 1941

HUGO, Okla.—The defense in the W. D. Lyons case scored its first victory Tuesday morning when Thurgood Marshall, New York, and special counsel for the N. A. A. C. P. objected to testimony given by the defendant at a time when he was without the advise and counsel of an attorney. Judge J. R. Childers, who has been overruled at a point where he began to tell the objections of the defense of a purported confession secured when sustained Marshall pointed from Lyons in the penitentiary out the preliminary trial Lyons when Attorney Belden jumped to his feet and objected. Belden asked the court to excuse the jury while argument would be made to show that the confession upon which the state bases its case was obtained through force by use of fists and black-jacks.

Recess Asked For

County Attorney Norman Horton was visibly non-plussed when Judge Childers sustained the objection and in order to safe-guard his retreat Holton asked for a recess.

During the recess Judge delivered from the bench a compliment to the throng that packed the court room.

Gala Day

Judge Childers said "There are students here from Goodland and Grant and it's a gala day in a way for you, an I want not only to compliment these students for their order and decorum in this court room, but I want to compliment all of those who are here and are giving such close attention to this important trial."

Holton was attempting to offer the preliminary trial record in evidence, but Marshall saw to it that the only portion admitted was that portion which showed that the defendant did not have counsel.

Convict "Coverup"

The fire works started when there was no force or violence used in securing the statement. Warden Jesse Dunn of the penitentiary was called to the stand from Lyons, Lyons said yesterday. The defense is going to attempt during an interview that Dunn to show that the entire case was present when he was beaten rounds a "cover-up" of convicts at the state prison. used in prison camps, and who were at the time of the murder. Dunn during his testimony running over the country-side identified those present at the time indulging in whiskey parties.

Lyons is supposed to confessed. He said in addition to himself a Deputy sheriff named Van Ralston, a barber and the chaplain at the institution were present.

Negro And White Witnesses Tell Of Torture In Murder Case

FEB 7 - 1941

HUGO, Okla.—Colored and white witnesses appearing here yesterday in the trial of W. D. Lyons a Negro farmer charged with killing a white family and then setting fire to their home nearly two years ago, testified family and then setting fire to their home nearly two years ago, testified forced the confession from Lyons after beating him with a blackjack for six hours.

According to testimony brought out at the trial, Elmer Rogers, his wife and four-year-old daughter, were murdered on December 5, 1939 in Fort Towson, Oklahoma, and their bodies burned when their home was fired by the murderer. The only evidence brought out that connects Lyons with the case is the statement of a witness who said Lyons was seen hunting near the Rogers' home on the day of the murder and the forced confession.

During the trial, which is expected to close this week, when the case will be handed to the jury, Judge J. R. Childers described the case, which has attracted people from all over the county, as a "gala day". White students in the elementary and high schools here have been allowed to attend the trial with their teachers.

Lyons, who is represented by Thurgood Marshall, special counsel of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and Stanley Belden, of Cushing, Oklahoma, testified that on the night he was arrested he was struck with a board, had his eye blacked and his head rammed against a brick wall several times, while officers took turns beating him. But, he refused to admit anything, he said.

Sometime later, he testified, he was taken up to the county prosecutor's office, where more than ten officers took turns beating him with black-jacks. They then brought in some of the bones of the burned victims, placing them in his lap. They then continued to beat him until 2:30 in the morning, he said, when he finally "confessed". They then took him to the scene of the crime, thence to the state pen at McAlester, Oklahoma, where he made a second confession."

The county prosecutor, Norman Horton, admitted that they hit Lyons with a strap. A state investigator testified that they "yanked his knee." Judge Childers ruled out the first confession, admitting that it was secured as a result of threats but refused to rule out the second one.

Back in 1939, shortly after the was committed a state convict is reported to have confessed the crime and implicating several other convicts. A state prison scandal resulted in the firing of the prison camp boss. The governor of Oklahoma, prior to election is said to have have sent Verni Cheatwood, an investigator to solve the crime. Cheatwood later arrested Lyons and secured the confession.'

15-1941

POLICE BRUTALITY

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Police Head Vows to Curb Police Brutality

WASHINGTON

Addressing a protest rally attended by more than 2,000 persons on Sunday afternoon, Acting Superintendent of Police Edward J. Kelly declared that he was utterly opposed to violence on the part of policemen and pledged his determination to curb brutality.

Superintendent Kelly, one of ten speakers who appeared before the emergency conference held at Metropolitan Baptist Church, sponsored by the Citizens' Committee Against Police Brutality, declared:

"As long as I am head of the police department, I will not tolerate violence against any citizen or against any police officer."

Review Citizens' Demands

He then discussed demands made by the citizens' group for suspension of Patrolman Donald Webber for the recent slaying of Jasper and Edward Cobb; effective action to deal with police brutality, replacement of the police trial board with citizen representation;

Appointment of 50 colored policemen among the 185 recently authorized by Congress; naming a colored precinct captain; ending the practice of holding persons on "open charges" and previously rejected.

He declared that no colored officer was at present eligible for compensation for dependents of persons slain by police.

Sidesteps Some Issues

To the first demand Superintendent Kelly stated that he was not in command of the force at the time of the Cobb killings and that the citizens should go to the district attorney and demand grand jury action.

In the second instance, he pointed to his record against discrimination and cited his own efforts last fall to investigate the beating of several colored per-

sons by two white police officers, both of whom are now under suspension.

He said he favored replacement of the present police trial board with one composed of one police department representative, one of the commissioners, and one citizen, either colored or white.

Need Colored Cops—but

He admitted the need for more colored policemen, but pointed out that there were only four colored members of the police school at present and stated that he was carefully considering two other colored police applicants, promotion to captaincy, but stated that the name of Detective Sergeant Daniel Pitman would be carefully considered for promotion to a lieutenancy, if it were found that he was in line for promotion.

Doxey Wilkerson Keynoter

Doxey Wilkerson, a member of the Howard University faculty served as chairman and delivered the keynote address.

In a scathing denunciation of police brutality, Mr. Wilkerson declared:

"Our rights are being violated by brutal and oppressive police action. We recognize the responsibility of police to apprehend criminals and to protect themselves, but we do not recognize the right of police officers, not in danger, but only giving expression to a brutal make-up, to beat their victims."

Tying the problem in with the present day world situation, he declared:

"Police brutality used to be considered a local problem, but today it must be viewed in terms of world significance. Police brutality and racial discrimination are part and parcel of this evil we are fighting on an international front."

Davis Pleads for Unity

John P. Davis, secretary of the National Negro Congress, de-

clared the need for "some way in which we can live peacefully together—a real national unity."

Mr. Davis also urged the removal of Captain Jeremiah Sullivan, head of the Second Precinct and chief departmental advocate of strong-arm methods before the recent Schulte Committee investigation of the department.

Other speakers included:

The Rev. L. Collins, acting pastor of the Berean Baptist Church; Hugh Miller, president of the Washington Committee for Democratic Action; Curtis Mitchell; J. Finley Wilson, Elk grand exalted ruler; the Rev. E. C. Smith, pastor of Metropolitan Baptist Church; Jack Zucker, business agent of Local 136, United Shoe Workers of America, CIO, and chairman of the Industrial Union Council committee on police brutality, and the Rev. W. H. Jernagin, pastor of Mt. Carmel Baptist Church.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Governor Probes Police Brutality In Kansas City

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—The campaign against police brutality being waged here by Negro citizens, led by the Kansas City National Association for the Advancement of Colored People branch, has brought about a sweeping investigation of police methods and administration with Gov. Forrest C. Donnell conducting the probe.

In the midst of the investigation, Chief of Police Lear B. Reed, former F.B.I. agent from Georgia, resigned rather than be questioned on the conduct of his officers.

The governor, who is directly responsible for the actions of the state-controlled police department, ordered the investigation as the direct result of a conference August 22 with a delegation of 23 Negro Kansas Citians who motored to the state capitol at Jefferson City to Negroes, as in the case of Harrison J. Ware, who was shot to death July 26 by two police officers during a raid of an alleged gambling place.

The report of the commissioners not only found no fault with the action of the police but accused Negro citizens of "brutal action toward police officers."

The report stated that there are "a large number of instances in which Negroes without justifiable cause attacked police officers," and that "there is a tendency among the larger percentage of Negroes to resist arrest and to attempt to do bodily harm to the officer making the arrests."

The police commissioners also told the governor that "members of the Negro community of Kansas City have been led to exaggerate instances of misconduct on the part of a few police officers of Kansas City."

One of the most damaging state-

"There were four instances complained of in which policemen had stopped and questioned delegates who were either riding or walking with women who had every appearance of being white women. On these occasions the officers, upon becoming suspicious and having no way to determine whether or not the women were white women, stopped both the man and woman and questioned them, but we were unable to establish that any force was used by the officers. that anyone was struck or abused or even that anyone was very seriously discommoded.

"One of the men stopped under these circumstances was the delegate who was the head of the convention and the woman whom he was with was a colored woman to whom he had been married for many years, but she had every appearance of being a white woman.

"The board considered the incidents comprising this part of their complaint as unfortunate but in no case do they think that the facts justify any criticism of the officer involved for misconduct.

"The whole trouble in connection with this convention seems to have been caused by agitation by those who have a motive in creating a situation of unrest."

N.A.A.C.P. Asks Ouster of Board
The report of the police commissioners was vigorously attacked by the N.A.A.C.P. in a letter sent to the governor on Thursday, Sept. 4, urging him to oust the entire board of commissioners and replace it with "officials who can and will command the respects of all the citizens."

With the resignation of Chief Reed which becomes effective September 30, however, Negro citizens see hope of better relations with the police department as the chief himself, by condoning acts of force and brutality, was the principal source of friction.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

ATTACK UPON MAIL CARRIER IRKS CITIZENS

NAACP Leads Demand
For Purging Mobile's
Police Force

MOBILE, Ala. — A new wave of police abuse and brutality which swept the city in recent weeks has aroused Negroes here from their usual apathy toward this problem, and for once they have expressed a determination to use every lawful means possible to put a stop to the mistreatment of peaceful men and women by police officers.

Already longshoremen of I.L.A. 1410 have given \$25 and postal employees have pledged \$150 in the drive for funds to aid the effort.

From time to time Negro men and women have been beaten by Mobile police, then arrested on trumped up charges, which usually resulted in heavy fines being imposed in the police court.

Citizens in all walks of life are indignant over the latest outburst of police abuse and brutality led by one officer, Ralph Jordan, white and practiced by a number of others.

Two weeks ago, Jordan arrested Mrs. Luella W. Blackwell because she compared his demands with the kind which could be expected from Hitler, as the abusive policeman made her give up her seat on a bus.

Because of the seriousness of the matter, the local N.A.A.C.P. filed a protest with local police authorities. Saturday, J. L. LeFlore, the chairman of the southern N. A. A. C. P., was arrested by Officer Jordan for investigating the abuse of colored bus passengers by the officer in question. The N.A.A.C.P. official was locked up for 45 minutes. It is rumored that Jordan

was immediately transferred to scout car patrol duty after the arrest of LeFlore.

The very next night, while on duty, Jordan slugged Ernest R. Langster, a well known letter carrier, with what witnesses described as a blunt instrument, as the postman along with others viewed an automobile accident.

The postman almost lost an eye because of the police attack. Seven clips had to be put in an ugly wound just above the eye, and he is still unable to return to work. His case was dismissed in court several days ago.

Whites have joined colored citizens in asking for Jordan's removal from the police force. He has now been transferred to a beat.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Investigation By Grand Jury Recommended

Return OEG 9/1
Stocks For AUG
Police Convicts Urged
Breathless

J. H. Paschall, solicitor of the Cherokee Circuit, Friday said he would recommend that C. A. Jacobson, former warden at Rising Fawn State Prison Camp, be held on a murder charge if reports concerning the death of a colored prisoner are true.

A joint legislative committee Friday called for a full grand jury investigation of the death of the Negro prisoner and a white convict.

Jacobson was fired Thursday night by two members of the State Prison Commission following a thorough investigation at the camp where Jacobson placed 22 colored prisoners into a small box-like house, keeping them in the "sweat box" 11 hours.

The punishment resulted in the suffocation death of Lewis Gordon, 25-year-old life timer.

WANTS STOCKS AUG 16 1941

One members of the state prison and parole commission Friday recommended the return of stocks in Georgia prison camps and

abolition of sweat boxes as means of punishment for prisoners.

After the hearing at which Jacobson admitted he crammed 22 Negro prisoners into a single sweat box seven and one-half feet square and that one died a few hours after they were removed, Chairman Clem Rainey and Commissioner Royal K. Mann went through the camp.

"I am heartily in favor of doing away with sweat boxes," Mann asserted. "I believe that some form of punishment, such as depriving the prisoners of such special privileges as getting mail and mingling with the other prisoners, would be sufficient for 90 per cent of them. I think probably the best punishment for the other 10 per cent would be to place them in stocks." AUG 16 1941

The legislative committee also asked the Prison Commission to urge an inquest into the recent death of Flam Bell, a Negro prisoner at the camp near Sparta, after gathering "strong evidence" that he "came to his death by a severe whipping by a person known as 'Boss' Alvin Johnson."

From his home in Rossville, Dade County Representative John L. Mavity, vice chairman of the House division of the Joint Legislative Committee, said he would recommend dismissal of "any officials shown to have had a hand in the brutality." He added that his group would probably recommend the abolition of "sweat boxes" as a means of punishment at state prison camps.

At the Sparta Camp, the legislators recommended the immediate suspension of Johnson and Dr. E. Hutchings, camp physicians, and "any other officials of the Sparta Camp connected with this brutal treatment."

The committee report described what was called "severe beatings and inhuman use of a sweat box" in the Rising Fawn camp.

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia

C. A. Jacobson Is Indicted in Prison Death

Murder Charged to For-
mer Warden in 'Sweat-
box' Case.

TRENTON, Ga., Sept. 15.—(AP)
Solicitor General J. H. Paschall
said the grand jury returned a

murder indictment today against he was accosted by a policeman former Warden C. A. Jacobson, of with a drawn revolver.

BEATEN BY NIGHTSTICK

The cop, whose badge Mr. McGowan recalled as No. 10164, abused him viciously, using anti-Negro and anti-Semitic phrases while he struck him on the head and legs with his night-stick.

Jacobson was dismissed by a Georgia Prison and Parole Commission following its investigation of the camp after death of the Negro, Lewis Gordon. The commission received testimony that Gordon and 21 others were placed in the 7x7 "sweatbox" for 12 hours as punishment for a sitdown strike while on road work.

A coroner's jury found the prisoner died of "cruel and inhuman treatment, by suffocation in a solitary confinement."

In his charge to the grand jury earlier in the day, Judge John C. Mitchell, in ordering the grand jurors to probe prison camp conditions, stated that "if 22 convicts were confined in a seven-by-seven-foot sweat box for several hours, and one of the convicts died, all responsible were guilty of murder."

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Demand Probe Of Cop Who Beat Negro

East Side Delegation
From Negro Congress
Presses Action

Demanding immediate hearings of the police assault upon Dewey McGowan, Negro resident of the lower East Side who was beaten by a policeman on the East River Drive early last Friday morning, a delegation led by the National Negro Congress visited the 11th police precinct yesterday. 1941

This was the second delegation in two days to protest at the police station and demand an investigation of the McGowan beating. The other one was led by the East Side Congress.

Mr. McGowan, 35, of 811 E. Fifth St. is the father of three small children. Early last Friday morning, distressed by the heat, he left his home and walked along the East River Drive. At about Third Street,

Constitution
Atlanta, Georgia
New Mistrial
In Sutherland
Case Declared
NOV 20 1941

Jury Unanimous in
Opinion It Can't
Reach Verdict.

After listening to testimony for five days and deliberating since 1 o'clock Tuesday afternoon, the second federal jury to try Police Officer W. F. Sutherland on a charge of obtaining a confession from a 16-year-old Negro boy by burning him, reported at 3:25 o'clock yesterday afternoon that it could not reach a verdict.

Judge E. Marvin Underwood declared a mistrial when T. C. Ellis, of Stone Mountain, foreman, said the jury was unanimous in the opinion that it never could reach an agreement.

Yesterday's mistrial is the second in the case since Sutherland was indicted by the government for allegedly depriving Quintar South, 16-year-old Negro boy, of his constitutional rights by forcing him to sign a confession to a burglary. Sutherland allegedly beat and slapped the boy and burned him on the neck and arms with a hot photographic tacking iron.

Sutherland alternately paced the hall or sat with his attorneys and smoked during the 15 hours the jury was in the jury room. He declined to comment on the action of the jury.

15-1941

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

An Unfortunate Incident OCT 6 1941

~~Police~~
THE UNFORTUNATE INCIDENT of a young colored lady getting kicked and then fined in recorder's court in Atlanta for daring to get on the street car ahead of a white man who is alleged to committed the kicking is one of those things which throws us back in the stride of good-will and racial harmony. It will be enrolled along with many of those grievances now haunting our defense efforts and inviting the finger of criticism of those nations now engaging in doing much of this very same thing. It will render our city some advertisement that will do it no good and in the end accelerate the already existing ill feeling generated by those citizens who are mean and have no interest in the building of a fine place in which citizens may live and invest with security.

It must be said to the everlasting credit of many colored citizens that they have endured many ugly things for the sake of peace and good-will. Many a time we have seen colored citizens who after paying their fares on the street cars stand for blocks with white passengers holding in many instances a seat apiece. Seeing these colored strap-hangers they are not moved to sit together and make room for the comfort of other paying and tired passengers. Seldom a conductor intercedes in the asking of such passengers to make room. In the street cars operated in this city, the conductor sits at the controls and receives the fares. He must keep his eyes on the cluttering traffic and has little or no time to police his car.

OCT 6 1941
The young matron in question had some rights. In her own judgment she exercised some of them. She fell into the toils of the law after being manhandled.

A citizen going to and from his work is entitled to the facilities and protection for which he pays. He should not be subjected to bodily harm and humiliation.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

"Emergency" Meeting At Butler 'Y' Oct 2, 1941 Defense Fund

Drive Starts
In Full Force

Local branch of the NAACP will hold another emergency meeting tonight 8 o'clock at the Butler St.

POLICE BRUTALITY

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

On Police Brutality

MUCH too often we have been forced to report instances of police brutality inflicted upon ordinary citizens of Harlem. And far too often we have waited in vain for the opportunity to report that the victim has secured redress.

OCT 18 1941

Very recently an incident occurred which may well account for the frequent inability of such victims to obtain reasonably swift satisfaction. Herbert Newton, an official of the WPA Teachers' Union, charging five police officers with attacking and beating him without cause, appeared for a hearing on his charges.

Although given to understand the hearing would be public, Newton found on arrival that a number of persons, representing civic organizations interested in the case, could not gain admittance. Furthermore, when the hearing was begun, he was informed very plainly that he could submit his evidence but that no answer from the police department would be forthcoming at that time.

Newton thereupon refused to testify, declaring that no hearing, conducted under such conditions, could possibly be considered fair. An appeal has been made, we understand, to City Hall, for official action to guarantee a hearing for Newton under conditions which "are more in keeping with the democratic way of life under which this country operates."

In view of current conditions everywhere, this is a most timely demand. But it would be a very justifiable one under any conditions.

We definitely don't want "democracy" of a sort which "is going to be maintained even if we have to kill everybody who disagrees with us."

The arm of the law is still but a portion of the entire body, the people, and must remain subject to that body.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

SAY MEMPHIS COPS SLUGGED MAN IN STORE

OCT 25 1941

Policemen's Version Of Attack. Theft Charges

officers of taking clothing from the store.

He was being questioned in the basement office of E. E. McKenzie, the store's chief engineer, when the officers said he broke away from them and ran headlong into a concrete pillar. He had a bad cut over the left eye.

Employes Protest

Colored employes of the store, one of the largest firms in Memphis, this week, protested against alleged police ~~brutality~~ ^{OCT 25 1941} perpetuated upon Gray.

Gray, was beaten so bad by police officers, according to unconfirmed reports, that he remained in an unconscious condition for several hours.

Other employes at the store stated that they could see the prostrate form of Gray as he lay on the basement floor of McKenzie's office, the immediate boss of approximately 200 Race employes at Goldsmith's.

Gray was not only handcuffed but he was bound up with a sort of leather belt, one of the employes stated. Gray, they said, was bleeding freely.

Inspector M. A. Hinds, in a report stated that Gray was hurt when he took a dive into the pillar. He also stated the officers had been questioning Gray about an hour and a half before he was hurt.

Shocked at the brutal treatment of Gray, Race employes at the firm demanded McKenzie's resignation.

Some of the employes who have been with the company 25 years at a meeting with higher officials of the store asserted that they could not work for the company any longer under a man like McKenzie. They were promised a hearing in the matter Thursday morning.

Commissioner Joe Boyle said that he had asked for a detailed report on the circumstances surrounding the injury of James Gray and after an investigation said he was convinced Detective Sgts Smith and Mosley, who had Gray in charge, did not lay a hand on him.

Denied By Employes

By JAMES H. PURDY, Jr.
MEMPHIS, Tenn. — James Gray, 35, a department store employe and a Dixie home tenant, was taken to the John Gaston hospital in an unconscious condition about noon Saturday after he suffered a head injury in what police reported as an attempt to break away from Sgts. Tom Smith and Mosley, following his arrest.

The officers said Gray had been taken to the store for clerks to identify him. He was accused by

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

Suspend 2 Ga. Cops Who Flogged Augusta Victim

AUGUSTA, Ga.—Two police privates were suspended from the service here Saturday under charges growing out of their clubbing a Race man, Olin Bodie, while making an arrest for drunkenness. He suffered several severe lacerations about the head. He later received medical attention at University hospital.

Commissioner John B. Kennedy said that he had an investigation made by a member of city council and a police lieutenant a few minutes after several residents in the neighborhood telephoned him of the incident.

The two officers turned in a miscellaneous report that admitted they struck Bodie about the head after he allegedly struck Officer Edd in resisting arrest. He was booked with being drunk and disorderly conduct, and reckless driving. The officers' report showed that the car driven by Bodie almost struck their patrol car and another machine.

After striking Bodie, the two officers placed him in a patrol wagon and sent him to the hospital for treatment.

The two suspended officers will stand trial before the civil service commission.

Kansas City. Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Request Trial Out Of County

Say Inhabitants Are Prejudiced Against Them

Two white patrolmen charged with beating a Negro attorney don't believe they can get a fair trial in Jackson county, so they

have asked for a change of venue. More than nine-tenths of the population of Kansas City and Jackson county is white.

On the eve of their second trial on charges of assaulting Attorney James D. Pouncey, Officers Charles LaBaugh and Leonard J. Johnson filed an application asking that their trial be moved to another county.

LaBaugh and Johnson are charged with beating Pouncey on Aug. 29, 1940, following a minor traffic accident at the three-way intersection of Vine street, Twenty-eighth street and Lynn avenue in Kansas City. The first trial in November, 1940, ended in a hung jury.

The second trial was scheduled to begin Monday, Oct. 20, before Judge Ben Terte. Following the application for a change of venue, Judge Terte set the date of hearing the motion for Monday, Oct. 27.

Although less than 10 per cent of the population of Jackson county is Negro, despite the fact that all of the judges in Jackson county are white, the jury more than likely would be all-white and despite the recognized fact that it is hard to convict a police officer. LaBaugh and Johnson say in their application for venue change that "due to bias ad prejudice of the inhabitants of this county, we would be unable to obtain a fair trial."

LaBaugh and Johnson will be represented by lawyers retained by the board of police commissioners. The state's case will be handled by John Hill, assistant prosecuting attorney.

The alleged beating of Pouncey came a year before the concerted fight which Negroes made this summer against police brutality. The Pouncey case was one of those cited, however, by Negro citizens who conferred with Governor Forrest C. Donnell at the state capitol on the question of police brutality. The campaign against brutality began following the slaying of Harrison J. Ware at the Autumn Leaf club by two police officers, one of whom was Charles LaBaugh, one of the officers involved in the Pouncey beating case.

LaBaugh and Dewey Ellis, the other officer involved in the Ware slaying, were exonerated by the

board of police commissioners, and were not indicted by the grand jury before which the case was presented. In view of this fact, it seems to Negro citizens that the feeling of the inhabitants of the county is more favorable toward the officers than prejudiced against them.

The hung-jury at the first trial of Johnson and LaBaugh was all-white. Although Negro citizens serve on trial juries regularly in Kansas

Oct. 24 1941
likely that the attorneys for the police officers would fail to scratch any Negro who appeared in the panel.

In August, 1940, Pouncey's car and the police car in which Johnson and LaBaugh were riding collided. Pouncey claims that the officers got out of their car and beat him unmercifully.

Charles Batten
On Trial Here
In Theft

Pawnshop Owner
Testifies Woman
Identified Jewel

Oct. 24 1941
A negro witness testified Wednesday afternoon that Charles R. Batten, former city detective, threatened his life after accusing him of getting Batten fired from the police department.

The negro, Paul Martin, proprietor of a shine parlor at 401 West Dallas, was a key witness in the trial of Batten on a charge of theft of a \$250 diamond ring. The former detective is on trial in Judge Langston G. King's court.

Martin Claims Ownership

Another witness, O. P. Sellingsloh, owner of a pawnshop at 414 Travis, testified Batten brought his wife into the pawnshop and had her identify the ring as her property, stolen from her home in a burglary. Batten then took possession of the ring, Sellingsloh said.

Martin testified he owned the ring and pawned it last November for \$20. He said the pawnbroker later told him Batten had redeemed the ring.

Ashworth Informed

Last summer, the negro continued to make a statement about the matter to Police Chief Ray Ashworth. An investigation was made and Batten resigned from the police force.

Afterward, Martin said, Batten walked up to him in shirt sleeves when he was sweeping the side-

walk in front of his shine parlor. "He asked me did I get my ring," Martin said, "and I told him I didn't. He said, 'You black —, I'm going to give you a ring and it's going to be a good one. You got me fired.' I told him I didn't get him fired.

"He said, 'Nigger, how long do you think you're going to live?' I said I didn't know. Then he said, 'Well, you're not going to live here.' I walked away from him without saying a word."

Martin said he had had the ring since 1938, when a negro woman left it as security on a \$5 loan. He said he never saw the ring after he pawned it.

Officer O. B. Chapman of the pawnshop, deposed, he saw the ring in Sellingsloh's loan office on Nov. 27, and reported it to Lieut. A. C. Thornton, who assigned Detective Batten to make an investigation to determine if the ring was stolen. On Dec. 22, Chapman related, Batten came to his home while he was sick in bed and told him he had discovered the ring belonged to Mrs. S. F. Bates.

Gave Him \$15
"He gave me \$15, and told me Mrs. Bates had sent it to me," Chapman said. "He said it was part of the reward. I made late on all he told me, for I thought it looked a little out of line."

Sellingsloh testified Batten came in to talk about the ring four times while it was in the pawnshop.

"Finally, he brought in a lady," the pawnbroker said, "and asked me to let him see the ring. He showed it to her, and she said, 'Yes, that's my ring.' Then he told her she could go, and he left a few minutes later. He came back next day and got the ring from my assistant, Mrs. Annie Berger."

Didn't Know Her Then

"Did you know who that lady was then?" asked Assistant District Attorney Arnold Krichamer.

"No, but I've since learned," the witness replied.

"Who was she?" Krichamer asked.

Defense Attorneys Charles I. Francis and Fred Switzer objected strongly to this question, but Judge King ruled the witness could answer.

"She was Mrs. Charlie Batten," Sellingsloh said.

Mrs. Bates Called

The prosecutor then had Mrs. S. F. Bates called into the courtroom, and asked the witness if she was the woman who had identified the ring. Sellingsloh said she was not.

The indictment against Batten charges him with theft of the ring from Sellingsloh and his assistant, Mrs. Berger.

A number of police officers, including Chief Ashworth and Assistant Chief Cecil Priest, are under subpoena as witnesses in the case. Testimony will be resumed at 9 a. m. Thursday.

The Daily Worker

New York, N. Y.

Encouraging Police Brutality

With the conviction of Herbert Newton, Negro vice-president of the WPA Teachers Union, a grave injustice has been done to the Negro people and to the trade union movement.

On a case possessing all the earmarks of a deliberate frame-up, the young Negro labor leader is now subject to a possible three-year sentence on a charge of "third degree assault." Newton was set upon by policemen led by Patrolman Emmet Howe and foully beaten, suffering permanent internal injury. His "crime" was that he and his fellow workers participated in a lawful picket line in Harlem last July.

But instead of seriously pressing Newton's just charges against Howe, the authorities imposed upon Newton evidently protection of Howe. Meanwhile, the flimsy character of the case against Newton can be seen from the fact that charges of carrying a concealed weapon" and "felonious assault" had to be dropped.

The case is a striking illustration of the police brutality against which the people reaffirmed their mandate on Nov. 4th. It is an encouragement to police terror against the Negro people and against labor's right to picket lawfully and peacefully. At a time when unity against Hitler and against Tammany influence is paramount, it is important that the rights of the unions and the Negro people be fully enforced. The widest support should be given to the WPA Teachers Union in seeking the unconditional freedom of Newton.

15-1941

POLICE BRUTALITY

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Ask NAACP to Probe Shooting of Man by Cop

PHILADELPHIA

Officials of the Philadelphia branch of the NAACP have been requested to investigate the shooting of James Guinn, 35, of 1126 Sheridan Street, by John Capitola, 45, white constable, during a hearing before Magistrate Angelo Panetta at 630 Federal Street on Saturday.

Guinn was shot in the right foot when he resisted an attempt by a constable to eject him from the magistrate's office. Capitola was released shortly after being arraigned in the Seventh and Carpenter Streets police station on charges of aggravated assault.

Didn't Like Attitude

Witnesses asserted that Guinn and his wife, Mrs. Janie Guinn, 34, were summoned to the court for alleged rent arrearage. Guinn began arguing with the magistrate after resenting statements made to his wife while she was testifying.

When he refused to be silenced, Magistrate Panetta ordered Salvatore DiNapoli, white, to eject Guinn from the court. On the way out, Guinn resisted the constable's attempts to shove him and the two fell to the floor.

Loses Blackjack, Shoots

Capitola went to the other constables' aid brandishing a blackjack which was grabbed by Henry Beard, 23, of Washington Avenue near Fifth Street. Upon the loss of the blackjack, Capitola drew his gun and fired, it was said.

Beard, a friend of Guinn's, after grabbing the blackjack, fled from the scene, but was overtaken by two court attendants.

Guinn was treated at Mt. Sinai Hospital for gunshot wounds of the foot.

The appeal to the NAACP was made by friends of the Guinn's and two South Philadelphia civic organizations.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Negroes to Parade in Washington; Hit Brutality

Meeting Demands Action to Halt Widespread Police Atrocities

(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 9.—A citywide march next Sunday has been called by the conference which met here yesterday sponsored by the Citizens Committee Against Police Brutality.

More than 1,600 delegates attended the meeting, which was addressed by outstanding Negro leaders and representatives of the trade unions. The conference followed a series of outrages against Negroes perpetrated by capital police, which included the slaying of two young boys, dragnet arrests and lawless beatings.

Speaker after speaker stressed the menace of Hitlerism in this country created by such outrages. Included among the speakers were Finley Wilson, national leader of 500,000 Negro Elks; John P. Davis, executive secretary of the National Negro Congress; the Reverends Smith and Jergamin, Jack Zucker, CIO Industrial Council, and Professor Wilkinson, who was chairman of the meeting.

The Negro people, the speakers declared, are determinedly against Hitlerism and demanded that they be given their rightful place in the front against the Nazi menace.

Hitlerite practices, such as those of the capital police, the conference declared, undermine our national defense effort and sow the seeds of fascism here.

Major Kelly, Superintendent of Police, addressed the conference and agreed to meet several of its demands. He declared that in the future citizen trial boards would try police killers and that the number of Negro policemen would be increased. The leaders of the conference, however, asserted that Major Kelly's pledges were sufficient guarantee to end the barbarous practices.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Daily Times.
August 16, 1941

PRISON BRUTALITY

Like something out of the dark ages is the story of brutality in a chain gang camp at Rising Fawn, Georgia. It seems incredible that any man would condemn twenty-two other persons to confinement in a closed space seven feet long and seven feet wide. Twenty-one Negro prisoners who survived at least eight hours in such a chain gang "sweat box" have testified that throughout that period they were deprived of water and of food. When another prisoner, Lewis Gordon, a Negro, collapsed, his fellows prayed and shouted for relief. But relief was not given. After another hour, Warden C. A. Jacobson got close enough to the torture chamber to obtain an impression that it was too hot inside. He had the distressed

Negroes removed. Several of them had to be carried out, among them Lewis Gordon, who died.

Every circumstance in connection with this gruesome case, as related by those who figured in it, constitutes a damning indictment of the chain gang system. It seems that the "sweat box" treatment was ordered after more than a score of the Negro prisoners had refused to work on a road. The Negroes did not mutiny, but they did refuse to work, in protest, it was said by some per-

sons who ought to know of conditions in the camp, against insufficient food and too much work. Before the disturbance was quelled, three of the Negroes were shot by their guards. When the men were returned to the camp, the uninjured among the "strikers" were ordered into the sweat box.

It may be asking too much to expect that wardens and guards in the scrubby, filthy chain gang camps will be enlightened men who have a decent regard for their charges. In such places, there is seldom a thought for rehabilitation. The rule is to manage the camps as inexpensively as possible, which means that food is sometimes scarcely better than a good farmer would feed to hogs, and to exact of the prisoners as much work as their bodies can be literally forced to perform. In the best of those camps, sanitation is primitive. And the attitude of the guards is likely to be that of a sadistic man toward an unruly animal.

Yet the system continues to be maintained, and even defended. After inquiring into the circumstances of the so-called mutiny of the prisoners, as a result of which three of them were shot, Chairman Clem Rainey and Commissioner Roy Mann of the Georgia State Commission on Prisons and Paroles expressed the opinion that the disturbance had been "handled well." It is not a matter of record that a single question was asked during the inquiry concerning the reported complaint about the food served the prisoners and the work required of them in extremely hot weather.

Warden Jacobson has been relieved of his duties. The Negro who lost his life died, asserted a coroner's jury, as a result of "cruel and inhuman treatment"; but if anything else is done about the matter, it will apparently be next month when the Dade County Grand Jury convenes. A lot of people will forget many

things before the Grand Jury convenes. It is doubtful if any one will come forward to plead the case of Lewis Gordon, a Negro; he died because a chain gang warden was "cruel and inhuman," but that, too, is part of a vicious system which is as criminal in its effects as are the men who are its victims.

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

LYONS TRIAL SET FOR JAN. COURT TERM

NOV 15 1941

HUGO, Okla., Nov. 13—Trial date has been set in W. D. Lyons case for the January term of the Oklahoma State Supreme Court, the NAACP announced this week, saying that the testimony brought out in court would be the most dramatic in any murder case in years.

Lyons, a 20-year-old farmer of Fort Towson, Oklahoma, has been in the Oklahoma state penitentiary since January, 1940, on the basis of a forced "confession" of the triple murder of Elmer Rogers, his wife and young son.

Lyons was rushed through a preliminary hearing in a courtroom crowded with whites worked up to near-lynching pitch. He was without a lawyer either before or during the trial. The two local lawyers who were assigned by the court to defend him refused to act and were excused by the court. Nevertheless he pleaded not guilty, and the NAACP State Conference in Oklahoma, after investigation, and advice from the national office undertook his defense.

An interesting sidelight is the NAACP's statement that C. A. Colclasure, father of Mrs. Rogers, sent his joining fee to the Association and is now a member. He joined in June.

Symptoms of Deeper Ills

Lewis Gordon, Negro convict at the Rising Fawn camp in Dade county, is dead. He was smothered when he and 21 other prisoners were kept in a "sweat box," measuring only 7½ feet in each dimension, for seven or eight hours.

The coroner's jury found that Gordon came by his death "due to cruel and inhuman treatment at the hands of the warden of this camp."

The warden, C. A. Jacobson, has been fired by the State Prison and Patrol Board. The sheriff of Dade county has said he will take no further action in the case, leaving it to the September grand jury to indict the warden if it desires.

A joint committee from both houses of the state legislature had visited the Rising Fawn camp last Monday and reported it found conditions there "very bad." Convicts to whom the committee members had spoken voiced fears for their safety if they told what they knew. Committee members later recognized these convicts among the 22 who had been incarcerated in that "sweat box."

The legislative committee also visited the camp at Sparta and stated, after investigation, that a Negro convict there, Flam Bell, died as the result of a beating.

These horrors have shocked every decent person in Georgia. They uncover conditions which most people had believed had long been abolished. Whipping of convicts and the use of barbarous modes of punishment, such as the "sweat boxes" were believed to have been forbidden in Georgia prisons and convict camps many years ago.

Undoubtedly many prisoners are difficult to control. It is explained that the outrage at the Dade county camp followed a mutiny by 25 convicts, three of whom were shot and wounded by the warden and a guard. A member of the State Prison Board has advised convicts against further mutinies, telling them to write any complaints they have to make to the board. Whether or not such written complaints would receive adequate attention, however, is to be doubted. Also it is difficult for a Negro prisoner, not unlikely an illiterate, to write a convincing letter and, having written it, to make sure it is properly addressed and mailed.

What must be remembered by Georgians, if such outrages as these are not to recur, is that

they are, actually, only the symptoms of a deep-rooted disease.

Regardless of the crime committed, when the state takes charge of a convict, it not only assumes a responsibility to society, to see that convict serves his term in accordance with the orders of the court. It assumes, also, a responsibility to the convict himself. That responsibility includes the duties of maintaining him in good health, of providing him with proper opportunities for reformation and of protecting him against such brutalities as have occurred at Sparta and in Dade county.

Primarily it is the duty of the State Prison and Parole Board to see that Georgia prisons and camps are properly and humanely conducted. It is the duty of that board to remember, at all times, its responsibility to the prisoners as well as to the state at large.

There are many well-run, humane convict camps in Georgia. But there are too many where prisoners are treated like vicious animals and where brutalities and tortures reminiscent of the middle ages are still practiced.

Such things as "sweat boxes" are beyond the pale in a civilized state. They should be, and must be, abolished at once. Together with any other instruments of torture of like severity.

Argus

St. Louis, Missouri

POLICE BRUTALITY

Because of the frequent brutal treatment of Negro citizens by the white police officers who walk the beats in these all neighborhoods, the local branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has taken the matter up with the Board of Police Commissioners.

Of course the charges made by the N.A.A.C.P. will be denied by the police officers, but the Police Commissioners, we believe, will consider certain facts in dealing with the officers in the case. Consideration of the fact that many of these patrolmen, old or new, have a fixed opinion that the Negroes HAVE NO RIGHTS WHICH A POLICEMAN IS BOUND TO RESPECT. They assume that they can beat, kick and kill

Negroes to satisfy their lust for blood, and will "get away with it." These policemen, for the most part, assume in the most important thing at this time, we believe, would be so many cases that they are judge and jury as to the punishment a man may deserve, and depend upon their clubs and the butt of their service revolvers to mete out what they call justice to the offending citizen. Therefore, we are won't to ask: Since when has the power of the courts to mete out justice for crime been allocated to the policeman's club or the butt of his gun? A policeman has no more right to mete out even his idea of justice, just because he is temporarily provoked, than a judge on the bench would have the right to take his seat, take off his coat and declare that he is angry with a defendant and is going to mete out justice without considering the evidence in the case.

We are reminded here of the case of Curtis Brown, who

was badly beaten up by the police two weeks ago. The evidence shows that it was necessary for this man to be taken to the hospital twice within an hour's time to have the cuts on his head closed by several stitches each time because of wounds inflicted by the police, et cetera. SEP 19 1941

To be sure, we are not making the claim that it is not necessary for a policeman at times to use force in making arrests of liquor or dope-crazed individuals, be they man or woman, but we do charge that in every case of brutality it can be shown that the policeman puts his personal prejudice against colored people into the affair and that is where the rub comes. We are thinking of a case where a man named Howard McVey, business agent for the Bartenders' Union, was arrested for "making an unusually loud noise by blowing his auto horn at 2 a.m. in the 4600 block on Laclede avenue." McVey is quoted as saying, "I'll blow it all I please. Why don't you lock me up?" The officers took him at his word and took him to the Ninth District station. Just suppose, on the other hand, it had been a Negro who had said, "I'll blow it all I please." With the white policeman's prejudice entering into the case, the chances are ten to one that the Negro would have been taken to the hospital rather than the police station. We mention this to cite the fact that these white officers act on their prejudices when dealing with colored offenders rather than performing their duty by making the arrest and letting the judge administer the punishment. They assume to mete out the punishment themselves. SEP 19 1941

As a further evidence that these brutality cases are accompanied by blood-curdling prejudices of the white police officers, we cite the fact that so far as we know, there has not been a case of reported brutality by the Negro officers on their beats against the citizens, and we do not believe that the offenders resist arrest by white policemen more so than they do arrest by Negro officers. But the difference is that the Negro officers do not carry the race prejudice in their night sticks and their pistol butts that the white officers do.

We hope that the Board of Police Commissioners, in looking into these brutality charges, will issue orders and inform all police officers that it is not their business to beat, slap, kick, curse or otherwise mistreat citizens whom they may meet out and enforce the law—not the policeman's club.

Of course, there is nothing new about police brutality against Negroes. The mistreatment of Negroes in Kansas City, Missouri, became so bold recently that it was necessary for a group of citizens to go to Jefferson City, Missouri and take the matter up with the governor of the state. All of the officers charged were white.

It may be that if there were more Negro officers in these communities there would be less brutality cases reported. But for the present Board of Police Commissioners to frown upon the officer who is found guilty of putting his prejudice into the performance of his duty. Such an officer is unfit for police duty in a great metropolitan system like that of St. Louis.

15-1941

POLICE BRUTALITY

Afro-American Baltimore, Maryland Woman Beaten by Policeman in E. Baltimore

BALTIMORE SEP 27 1941
Citizens of Southeast Baltimore in the area surrounding the 100 block S. Bond Street are highly enraged over what they term the "severe and unnecessary" beating Tuesday evening of a young woman by an Eastern District policeman who used his nightstick to club her almost unconscious after arresting her on a disorderly conduct charge.

The policeman in question is Patrolman John McCluskey. He is the same officer who shot Clarence Hardy, 27, of 637 S. Paca Street, in the left leg last fall while placing him under arrest on a minor assault charge. As a result of this shooting, physicians found it necessary to amputate Hardy's leg, and he was just released from City Hospitals in the latter part of June.

Witnesses state that the young woman, Miss Bertha Early, 21, of 105 S. Bond Street, had some disagreement with a Mrs. Tillie DeLice, white proprietress of a tavern at 100 S. Bond Street, shortly after 8 p.m. and had left the place and gone to her home.

Several minutes later, however, Patrolman McCluskey, entered and shortly thereafter brought the young woman back to the tavern and, according to Elliott Thompson of 113 S. Bond Street, an eyewitness, had the young woman on one side of him and the tavern proprietress on the other, while the latter told her story.

Tells of Brutal Beating

Thompson said the policeman told Miss Early to keep quiet and when she persisted in pleading for her release, the cop struck

her across the head with his nightstick several times until she fell to the floor and he fell with her, as she grabbed him to support herself.

Before she fell, however, she is said to have struck the cop in an effort to escape further punishment.

Mr. Thompson stated that he pushed through the crowd of men in the barroom and told the policeman, who was still beating the young woman with his nightstick, to stop hitting her and that he would hold her until some semblance of order was restored if he (the policeman) was afraid.

And this he did, with the policeman's agreement, until a patrol wagon came.

Woman Fined, Jailed

Following the hearing in Eastern District police court Wednesday morning before Magistrate John W. Prinz, Miss Early was fined \$10 and costs for disorderly conduct in the tavern and sentenced to sixty days in jail for striking Patrolman McCluskey, the magistrate ruling that the sentences would run consecutively.

Arrested along with the young woman and fined \$5 and costs each on charges of disorderly conduct in the tavern, also, were Miss Dorothy Saunders, 21, of 109 S. Bond Street, and Albert McClanahan, 29, of 20 Marsh Market Space.

Miss Saunders told the AFRO on Wednesday that she was just one of the crowd attracted by the disturbance and her arrest came about when the officer overheard her saying that it was a shame the way he had beat the young woman and that something should be done about it.

Ordered into Homes

After the arrest of the three, Edward Foster, who lives at 104 S. Bond Street, alongside of the tavern, stated that another policeman came around and tried to drive the persons along that side of the street for about a half a block, who were sitting in their doorways or on their steps, inside their homes.

While Miss Early is said to

have no relatives here, several of the citizens indicated to the AFRO that they would ask the NAACP to take an interest in her case.

DAILY WORLD
Atlanta, Georgia

Tenn. Officer Who Shot Boy In Squad Car Freed

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—(SNS)—"Justifiable," Chief of Police Carroll Seabrooks reports in exonerating two police officers in the shooting of Steve McQuirk, 22, 776 East Georgia, early last Saturday morning. The decision of Chief of Police was accepted by Macon, Georgia Police Commissioner Joe Boyle.

McQuirk, in a serious condition at John Gaston hospital, told a Press Scimitar reporter Monday he was trying to start his car when the two officers, Patrolmen J. W. Sumner and Dinkmon, appeared and demanded to know what he was doing.

He said they beat him in the stomach with their fists and hit him over the head with a club. the daily quoted McQuirk as saying, and added that he said he was placed in the squad car and the officers told him they were going to shoot him. He said Officer Sumner pointed the gun in his face and fired.

On the way to the hospital, McQuirk said, the officers discussed the shooting and said that they would report it as an accident, the Press Scimitar's report read.

In the same edition of this paper, the Scimitar carried the following editorial:

'ACCIDENTAL'

The shooting of Steve McQuirk, Negro, by a police officer after he was already in the squad car should be investigated thoroughly by Commissioner Boyle and the grand jury.

The Negro says he was shot deliberately. Officer J. W. Sumner, who fired the shot, denies this. But he is shown to be at fault by his own statement. He says the shooting occurred after the prisoner was in the squad car. Two police

men should certainly be able to handle one unarmed prisoner without an "accident."

The people of Memphis have a right to expect better police work than this.

TELEGRAPH
Macon, Georgia

Sweatbox Case Brings Charge Of Murder

TRENTON, [AP]—The grand jury climaxed Tuesday its investigation of a state prison camp with the return of murder indictments against a former warden and three guards for the deaths of prisoners.

C. A. Jacobson, recently dismissed as warden of the camp on Lookout Mountain, was named in two indictments.

7 BY 7 BUILDING

The first indictment charged him with the death of a Negro convict, Lewis Gordon, who, it said, was confined for seven hours with 21 other prisoners in a 7 by 7 building.

The building, known to convicts as a "sweatbox," was described as "fully exposed to sun" when the temperature was 105 degrees in the sun. The indictment said Gordon was "without adequate air, without water and without any form of relief" during the confinement.

GUARDS ACCUSED

J. B. Wofford, William Whitaker and C. A. Gray, identified

by Soncitor General J. H. Paschall as former guards at the prison, were named with Jacobson in a second indictment charging them with the shotgun death of Arvie Moore, white prisoner, last May.

Paschall said Moore was shot to death, while manacled, in an attempt to escape. Paschall said the cases probably would be set for trial in November.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Man Attempting to Protect Wife Beaten by Cops

WASHINGTON NOV 29 1941
Because he objected to his wife's being maltreated and allegedly attacked by two arresting officers, George Ellsworth Johnson, 36, janitor, of 2038 Eighteenth Street, Northwest, was fined \$30 Tuesday in police court for allegedly assaulting Patrolmen Henry H. Miller and Charles E. Riley of No. 13 Precinct.

The officers testified that they were called to stop a disturbance in the basement of the house where Johnson lived and found a fight in progress. The officers stated that when they attempted to arrest Johnson and his wife for disorderly conduct, Johnson interfered and slapped one of them while in the patrol wagon.

Denies Officer's Charges

The defendant testified that he did not resist arrest but that he protested against the officers' taking his wife from the building in her night pajamas without allowing her to put on clothes to wear to the station house.

He admitted having slapped the officer when he saw his wife in agony and pain from handcuffs placed too tightly upon her wrists.

Beaten with Nightstick

Johnson, diminutive in size compared with the two extraordinarily large policemen, said that he was clubbed severely over the head with a night-stick and had to be taken to Freedman's Hospital for treatment of scalp wounds which were in evidence at the trial.

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Cop Beats Negro--Groups On East Side Fight Terror

Dewey McGowan could tell the Mayor's radio station a little something about New York City "where 7½ million people . . . enjoy the benefits of democracy."

Mr. McGowan, a 35-year-old Negro worker who lives on the lower east side, was treated to a strong sample of that democracy early last Friday when an ~~undertaking~~ New York cop accosted him brutally on the East River Drive and threatened to "break your head open and throw you in the East River."

Mr. McGowan, who lives at 811 E. Fifth St. and has three little children, came to the East Side National Negro Congress, 214 E. Second St., last Friday and asked them to help him. He was stiff and cruised from the beating he had received.

GROUPS FIGHT TERROR

Louis O. Harper, East Side chairman of the NNC, took Mr. McGowan to a doctor, then to a lawyer, and then he contacted other progressive East Side organizations. Together these organizations, which include the East Side Tenants Union, the Jewish People's Congress, American Youth Congress, American Peace Mobilization, American Labor Party, International Workers Order, and others, have launched a campaign to end this reign of terror against Negro people on the East Side.

The Daily Worker interviewed Mr. McGowan, obtaining the following details of the police assault upon him:

"Last Thursday night, late," he said, "it was hot and there was a commotion in one of the other floors in the house where my family and

Washington Post
Washington, D. C.

500 at Negro Mass Meeting Protest 'Police Brutality' Here

An estimated 500 Negro men, women and children chanted three times in unison that "police brutality must go," closing a protest meeting yesterday in the park at Tenth and U Streets Northwest.

One of the speakers, the Rev. Frank W. Alstork, pastor of Union



DEWEY McGOWAN

I live. I could not sleep so I get up and went along the East River drive to walk and cool off. At about Third St. this policeman comes up to me with a drawn gun and begins to hit me with his nightstick. He wants to know am I a 'Jew-lover' and keeps telling me how the Negro people get treated in the South."

"Protect Our Civil Rights" and "Police Brutality is a disgrace to the Nation's Capital."

Dr. Wilkerson Presides

Called on for cries of resolution by Dr. Doxey A. Wilkerson, of Howard University, who presided, the assemblage mildly shouted that "Police Brutality Has Got to Go" and "Protect Our Civil Rights" but came out with the lung power on "Old Jim Crow Has Got to Go."

One of the placards demanded a Negro captain for the Second Police Precinct, the position now held by Capt. Jeremiah Sullivan. This is a thickly populated Negro residential area.

A Negro youth passed among the crowd at the meeting, sponsored by the Citizens' Committee Against Police Brutality, passing handbills that urged all to help raise a \$5000 "fighting fund against police brutality."

Among the crowd, listening interestedly, was the new police superintendent, Maj. Edward J. Kelly. Many policemen were there, mostly Negro policemen, who stood back on the sidelines, unobtrusively.

Hymns Played

Before the meeting started, and after it finished, a phonograph with amplification, played hymns and balads. And the crowd, in the interludes, talked to each other good-naturedly.

Some white men and women walked through the crowd, looking for buyers of the Sunday Worker.

Other speakers were Craig Vincent, of the C. I. O. Industrial Union Council; Frank Donner, chairman of the case committee of the sponsoring organization, and Dorothy Strange, its secretary. The shooting of two Negroes, Jasper and Edward Cobb, by Policeman Donald R. Webber the night of August 4 last precipitated the protests.

Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla.

Have You Helped In the Lyons Case?

W. D. Lyons is a helpless black boy charged with the murder of a farm couple near Fort Towson New Year's night 1939. The evidence in this case shows that a white man, Houston Lambert, was clubbed and beaten until he confessed the crime. Lambert was later released after his confession had been published, detailing how he committed the murder.

The evidence then shows that a Negro, Vann Bissell, was taken in charge by authorities in Choctaw county and beaten. He, too, confessed, but was later released and told to leave the county.

State officials at this time entered the case and the arrest of W. D. Lyons followed. The evidence which will be presented to the Criminal Court of Appeals by the N. A. A. C. P. is to the effect that W. D. Lyons was clubbed and beaten for more than 14 hours by sworn officers of the law and that during that time, without food or water, and at times exposed to freezing temperatures, without sufficient clothing, two confessions were extorted.

One of these confessions was thrown out by the court because of prima facie evidence that Lyons was beaten. The other confession, secured by the same officers, during the same day at the state penitentiary, was admitted in evidence by the court.

In article eight (Bill of Rights) Constitution of the United States, the founding fathers expressly prohibit the exercise of "cruel and unusual punishment" upon defendants while in the hands of the law. Do you want a terroristic type of government in Oklahoma, or do you want the guarantees vouchsafed by the constitution to be enforced? The way to show your belief in decent government is to back the Lyons case with your money.

Sit down today and make your donation by check or money order. Up to date almost all of the funds in this case have been raised directly through the efforts of Dr. H. W. Williamston, Idabel, and regional director of the N. A. A. C. P. in that area. The Black Dispatch desires to start a W. D. Lyons defense fund aside from the N. A. A. C. P. branches. With this in mind we suggest that individual contributions be sent direct to the Black Dispatch for tabulation and publicity. We want to run a week by week

list of donors. Will you be kind enough to assist? Send your donation direct to the Black Dispatch Publishing Company, Box 1254, Oklahoma City, Okla.

Copy for the brief in the W. D. Lyons case arrived this week for printing, and is now in the hands of the Utterback Brief Printing Company, Oklahoma City. The brief will cost \$90 and this money must be raised immediately, and the brief filed in the Criminal Court of Appeals.

With cool weather setting in, N. A. A. C. P. branches over the state should immediately start holding meetings after the summer lull, which always occurs during the hot weather. If mass meetings are held immediately sufficient funds can be raised to pay for the brief and the attorney fees in this important case.

Not alone to the N. A. A. C. P. branches should the cost of this case be assessed. If you live in a community where there is no unit of the N. A. A. C. P. your responsibility to help fight terroristic government is just as great.

15-1941

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

W. A. C. Hughes, Jr., Robert P. McGuinn DEC 20 1941 'Disturbing Peace'

Cops Indulge in Gestapo Tactics;
Charges Dismissed in Northwestern
Police Court by Magistrate Dewees

BALTIMORE—The arrest early Sunday of W. A. C. Hughes, Jr., local NAACP attorney, and Robert P. McGuinn, also a lawyer, by Northwestern District police on charges of "disturbing the peace," is being referred to as another example of Baltimore policemen's Gestapo tactics.

Mr. Hughes and Mr. McGuinn were leaving a restaurant in the 1500 block of Pennsylvania Avenue about 2:30 a.m. Sunday when Officer Fred Rembold yelled across the street, "Hey, you, what are doing up here in this neighborhood?"

"Come Here," Officer Yells

When this remark was apparently ignored by the lawyers, the officer yelled, "Come here," and when the pair crossed the street they were questioned closely by Officer Rembold and Officer John Griffin, who accompanied him.

The lawyers replied that they had done no wrong and were not obligated to submit to any examination by the officers, spectators said, and requested to see the policemen's badge numbers.

As the lawyers started to Magistrate Walter J. Deeweese's car, they were ordered the charges dismissed.

On Monday, complaints were lodged by the lawyers with Captain Joseph Wallace, commander of the Northwestern District station, and Police Commissioner Robert F. Stanton, charging the officers with "arresting without provocation and just cause."

Taken to Northwestern District station they were forced to submit to routine search, docketed on the "disturbing the peace" charge and then posted collateral of \$26.60 insuring their appearance at court the following morning.

Charges Are Dismissed

At the hearing, Mr. Hughes asked a jury trial but after testimony by the officers failed to substantiate a prima facie case.



W. A. C. HUGHES, JR.



ROBERT P. MCGUINN

served as attorney for the association in its successful teachers' salary fight and in its war against taverns in residential neighborhoods. He is well known president of the Monumental City Bar Association, former secretary of the NAACP, and has established a reputation by his work against police brutality. He is a member of the Commission on Higher Education for Negroes and is a

POLICE BRUTALITY

nephew of the late Warner T. McGuinn, former city councilman. Both have offices at 22 St. Paul Street.

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Another Fulton Slayer Is Given Life Sentence

James Jones
Pleads Guilty,
Accepts Term

NOV 18 1941
A life imprisonment sentence was meted James Jones in Fulton Superior Court Monday for the October 25 pistol slaying of Charlie Singleton, of a Hilliard Street address.

Judge John D. Humphries sentenced Jones to serve the remainder of his life behind the bars when a consent verdict was allowed through defense attorney George Manley and the state.

Singleton's murder was described as the result of jealousy between the deceased and the assailant. An eyewitness told police that the assailant trailed Singleton and a woman on Pratt Street near Decatur where he fired several times after being begged by the woman not to kill her. Singleton died on the spot, several bullets taking effect in his head, according to reports.

Ollie Young was found guilty of stabbing Henry Reed and ordered to serve eight months of an eighteen-month sentence imprisoned the balance of the term to be probated. Young was tried for assault with intent to murder before Judge A. L. Etheridge. The stabbing took place on October 4, it was revealed.

An interesting sidelight is the N.A.A.C.P.'s statement that C. A. Colclasure, father of Mrs. Rogers, sent his joining fee to the Association and is now a member. He joined in June.

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo.

Hearing Set for January

NOV 14 1941
**State Convinced
Of Innocence of
Young Farmer**

HUGO, Okla.—The W. D. Lyons case has been set for the January term of the Oklahoma State Supreme court, the N.A.A.C.P. announced this week, saying that the testimony brought out in court would be the most dramatic in any murder case in years.

Lyons, a 20-year-old farmer of Fort Towson, Oklahoma, has been in the Oklahoma state penitentiary since January, 1940, on the basis of a forced "confession" of the triple murder of Elmer Rogers, his wife and young son.

The case has many ramifications, political and otherwise, but sentiment in Oklahoma is strong in favor of Lyons' innocence.

Peace officers of the county are charged with torturing Lyons unmercifully to extract a confession even to the extent of putting a pan of bones in his lap, forcing him to hold them and telling him they were the bones of the victims.

Lyons was rushed through a preliminary hearing in a courtroom crowded with whites worked up to near-lynching pitch. He was without a lawyer either before or during the trial. The two local lawyers who were assigned by the court to defend him refused to act and were excused by the court. Nevertheless, he pleaded not guilty, and the N.A.A.C.P. State Conference in Oklahoma, after investigation, and advice from the national office undertook his defense.

An interesting sidelight is the N.A.A.C.P.'s statement that C. A. Colclasure, father of Mrs. Rogers, sent his joining fee to the Association and is now a member. He joined in June.

The N.A.A.C.P. also stated that at the time Lyons was sentenced on the forced "confession" every Negro and 90 per cent of the whites in the area were convinced of his innocence.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois

2 White M.P.'s Demoted, Fined For Beating Soldier

NOV 15 1941

WASHINGTON, D. C. late Wednesday night, was said to be "fair" at Grady Hospital Thursday.

DEC 12 1941

Charged with helping a civilian police officer to beat up a Negro soldier with a blackjack, two white military police attached to Camp Robinson in Louisiana, were recently sentenced to a month's hard labor, reduction in rank, and fined two-thirds of their salaries by Major Lester Sued, the officers claim that their Davidson, of Camp Robinson, court guns went off. They succeeded in martial trial judge in the case. Major Davidson, in summing up of 597 Lindsey street and charged the case against the men, was them with gaming.

Major Davidson, in scathing in his denunciation of any indulgence of Hitlerism in the United States arm NOV 15 1941. Officer Fleming said he captured Officer Fleming made by Officer R. H. Fleming, he and his partner, Officer E. H. Miles answered a call to the rear of 310 Ashby St. N. W., where they found about fifteen men engaged in a crap game by kerosene light. During

In a direct appeal to the Negro people of the South, he gave assurance that the bill of rights would be upheld in and around his camp, which is located near Ruston, La.

The story of the court martial and Major Davidson's statement, was carried in a recent issue of the Sioux City (Iowa) Journal, Davidson's home town.

Although War Department officials said they could not comment on the case until a report had been filed here, Col. L. A. Lovett, assistant public relations chief indicated that the War Department had now come to regard severe punishment in such cases as routine.

"Certainly the War Department is interested in doing everything possible to maintain the highest morale among all sections of the armed forces," he said, "and we want to keep the efficiency of our men up to a high level. We know that men will make mistakes, that is only human, but whenever these mistakes are made it is the policy of the War Department to correct them and punish those responsible."

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Says Policeman Forced Her To Whip Children

Victims Seized
While Skating,
Mother Reports

DEC 30 1941

Mrs. Lula White, of 325 Lyons Avenue, NE, was forced to whip her two children in the presence of an Atlanta policeman who seized

them while they were skating on Hilliard street, between Auburn avenue and Irwin street, she reported Monday.

Mrs. White said she gave Julia White, 17, and Willie Robert White, 15, "several licks" at the insistence of the officer who threatened to take them to jail for the skating offense. Mrs. White failed to record the badge number of the officer, she stated.

CITE 2nd CASE

Children of the neighborhood reported officers made the father of another youth break up the latter's skates after he found him skating on Hilliard St. NOV 30 1941.

The area of Hilliard street where the children were reportedly seized was one of five reported "desolated" by Atlanta police and a colored safety control committee, headed by Andrew J. Lewis, city attendance officer, as places where colored children might break in their new wheel toys, without fear of heavy traffic or police molestation. In the case of Hilliard St., traffic was to be limited and motorists slowed down to ten miles per hour between the hours of three until 5:30 p. m. after the Xmas school recess ended. Skating areas blocked off under the police order included Tattnall street from High to Chapel, Taliaferro from Hilltop Circle to Spencer, John Hope Drive from Parsons street to Fair, and Johns street from Gray street to Lambert.

Richmond, Va., Times-Dispatch
October 4, 1941

Talmadge and Rising Fawn

PUT a notch in the gun of the Atlanta Journal for its exposure of hideous brutalities in the Rising Fawn Prison Camp on top of Lookout Mountain. Two Journal men joined with a prison investigating committee in stopping a hearse that was carrying a dead Negro convict away from Rising Fawn, a convict whose death in a sweatbox the previous night had not been reported to the State Prison Commission.

The Journal's subsequent series of pictures and stories of Rising Fawn blew the lid off. It also sent GOVERNOR TALMADGE into another tantrum against the newspapers. "GENE" has tried to suppress all news of the official investigation of Georgia prison conditions now in progress, but he can't keep it suppressed for long. Too much concerning abuses is known.

Richmond, Va., Times-Dispatch
August 23, 1941

Georgia Chain Gangs and Talmadge

An Editorial from the Chattanooga Times

THE death of 25-year-old Lewis Gordon, a Negro who was serving a life sentence, in a "sweat box" at the Georgia chain gang camp near Rising Fawn, has had repercussions throughout Georgia. Reports that another Negro prisoner in a camp at Sparta, Ga., was beaten to death with a rubber hose are being investigated, and Governor Eugene Talmadge asserted on Monday that "if you want to get somebody who knows how to treat prisoners why not get somebody who has been a prisoner himself and knows how they ought to be treated?"

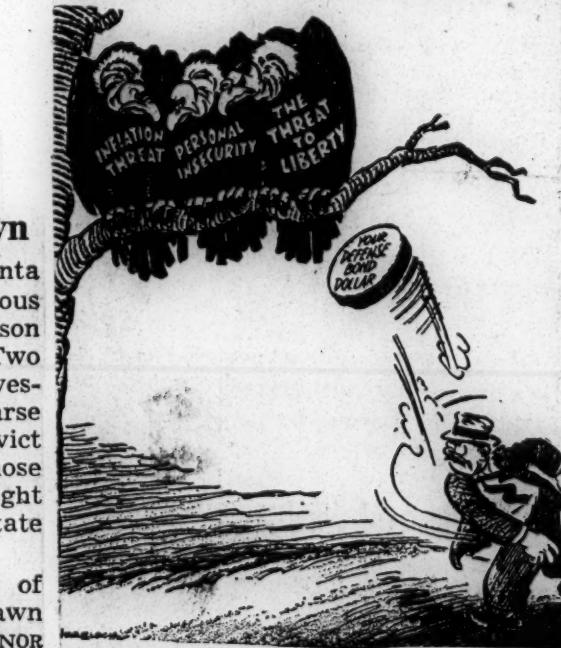
As a character witness for two convicted murderers, Governor Talmadge may have sound reasons for restoring their liberty. But he will find few persons who will agree with him that two men who in their teens "helped kill a Negro" and were sentenced to serve the rest of their lives in prison are persons who should act in the name of a State government in the supervision of prisoners. It is debatable whether the chain gang system in Georgia will be abandoned or substantially improved so long as a Governor with Mr. Talmadge's views is in office.

Twenty Years Ago Today

BOOTLEGGERS failing to pay their income taxes were to be prosecuted, the Bureau of Internal Revenue announced. THE DISCOVERY of numerous automobile graveyards, underground or in deep quarries, shocked national insurance companies, which had paid for many fictitious thefts.

MRS. C. W. MASSIE presided at the meeting of the Women's Auxiliary of the American Legion, which was held at the Richmond Hotel.

MISS ELEANOR PARRISH had been the recent guest of friends in New York City.



Raleigh, News and Observer.

Chance to Hit Three at Once

vestigators will be conditioned by the view he expresses now in defending his appointment as wardens of convict camps two convicted murderers whom he pardoned. Governor Talmadge says of Ed Goble and Fred Goble, who "helped a deputy sheriff kill a Negro in Elijah when they were 15 or 16 years old," that both are "good boys." Several years after he pardoned the men and soon after becoming Governor for the third time about a year ago, Mr. Tal-

15-1941

Anderson, S. C., Independent Trib
October 30, 1941

SOUTH CAROLINA

THE OLD FLIM FLAM

Favorite crime in Negro circles seems to be the flim flam game in which the principal victim is the person who wants to get something for nothing. And at this particular time of the year it doesn't apply to Negroes alone.

The suddenly-discovered wallet. The offer to split with the victim providing he keeps quiet. The touch for a bit of change until the wallet's contents are cashed in. The inevitable get-away by the promoters of the scheme.

To be safe, just don't try to get something for nothing—to profit by another person's loss. And then you won't wind up as that "another person."

15-1941

Columbia S. C. State
February 6, 1941

Negro Physician Thanks Chief for Courtesy

Good deeds, too, turn up later.

On Tuesday night, Motorcycle Officer Calvin T. Hembree noted a traffic violation at Oak and Hampton streets by a Negro physician whose automobile ran through a red light.

The motorcycle officer explained that the light was placed there for the driver's protection, after which the physician went to police headquarters and paid his fine.

Yesterday he called upon Police Chief L. J. Campbell and praised the courtesy and conduct of the motorcycle officer.

Commendation from a person in such matters does not come often, Chief Campbell later observed.

Spartanburg, S. C. Journal
January 27, 1941

Negro Business

~~Is Closed on Nuisance Charge~~

White Men Found by Officers in House Here

A negro business establishment in the Dew Drop Inn section, on Wofford street, near the railroad underpass, has been closed by a nuisance warrant taken today by city detectives, following two raids, one immediately after the other, Saturday night.

Officers reported that they found white men and negro men and women in the establishment both times Saturday night, the last raid being made less than half-an-hour after the first.

Two negroes listed as Joe Hunter and Lula Gaston on the warrants were taken into custody following the raids.

The affidavit to the warrant follows:

"Joe Hunter and Lula Gaston did commit the crime of operating a general nuisance in that they have and do operate, maintain and sponsor one rooming house, hotel or establishment located at Dew Drop Inn, Wofford street, Spartanburg, S. C., for the purpose of allowing men and women to congregate for

immoral purposes, to drink, gamble and carry on other disorderly conduct that is offensive to the general public and the people of the community, in violation of the statutes made and provided in such cases."

Detectives W. C. Hayes and H. H. Taylor and Constable Bryan McAbee are listed as witnesses. Mr. Hayes took the warrant before Magistrate Dan Hydrick.

Tribune
Philadelphia, Pa.

Wins \$2,200 In Damages Against "Loan Sharks"

MAR 27 1941
GREENVILLE, S. C. (AP)—An effective body blow was delivered here last week to the relentless, implacable loan shark racket, when a Greenville county civil court returned a verdict awarding Richard Jones, colored railroad worker, a total of \$2,200.26 damages, in his suit against Smith Brokerage Co., Inc.

Jones alleged that on April 8, 1937, he borrowed \$15, for which he was required to pay as interest, \$2.29 on the 15th and 30th of each month. He continued to pay this usurious interest through March 1939, paying a total of \$107.63—but still owing the Smith company the original \$15, plus current interest. He had, in other words, paid the original \$15, seven times over in interest, but still owed the principal. MAR 27 1941

Was "Embarrassed"

Jones, the complainant, alleged that he was "considerably embarrassed" by the defendant, Smith Brokerage company, presenting to his employer—the Southern Railroad—a salary assignment and stated that he had made no such assignment. Jones asked both actual and punitive damages. It is believed that this is the largest sum ever awarded a Negro for punitive damages in the South. It may encourage other Negroes—in the clutches of loan sharks—to enter suit on similar grounds. MAR 27 1941

The defendant company did not appear in court, was not represented there by counsel and did not file an answer to Jones's complaint. Clerk of Court T. E. Christenberry said, highlight of Jones' bill of complaint as presented by his counsel, Hicks and Johnson, was as follows:

Loan Shark Rapped

"The defendant is engaged in conducting a business of lending money at a usurious and exorbitant rate of interest, nominally called that of a loan shark business, and in order to cover up the usurious transactions defendant adopts, and in the instant case did adopt various fraudulent

schemes, designs, processes, connivances and conspiracies, so as to keep its unlawful acts hidden and prevent their disclosure, such as failure to give receipts for payment, having what purported to be notes signed in blank, when in fact they were not only notes but in addition assignments of wages, chattel mortgages and other papers, all of which were filled out later and also, except the notes, fraudulently and with design to cheat and defraud the plaintiff in this case and its other clients in other cases, knowing that they were ignorant and illiterate people, unacquainted with its fraudulent devices and subterfuge."

Florence, S. C., Morning News
June 1, 1941

Negro's Freedom Comes To An End

Detective McLaughlin Seizes Escaped Convict On Suspicion and Secures Facts

CITY Detective A. E. McLaughlin picked up a negro on suspicion yesterday and after a lengthy questioning learned that the negro was one arrested here in 1930 for breaking into the old W. Lee Flowers wholesale store.

His name is Walter Jordan. After his trial for the house breaking and larceny charges stated above Jordan was sent to the Florida county gang for three years. He served almost a year and a half.

Jordan has been at large since then. During the time he first a big, reportedly in Detroit in his wanderings from the law.

McLaughlin turned the negro over to Captain Hanna who placed him back on the gang to complete the unserved term. He will

be tried later on the charge of breaking away from the gang.

Not a bad find for the city detective who was acting only on a suspicion.

Negro Labor News

Houston, Texas

SOUTH CAROLINA IN MOVE TO EXTRADITE COLORED SELECTEE

BOSTON, Mass.—Police officials from Cheraw, S. C., are in this city to extradite Private Andrew Harmon Ford, 21, accused of attacking Frank Stokes, white, of Cheraw, with a knife.

Private Ford has been taken from Camp Edwards near here and placed in jail in East Cambridge where he was interviewed by Ray W. Guild, president of the Boston branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, who will appear as counsel for Ford.

It is feared that if Ford is returned to South Carolina he will be lynched.

He is accused of unprovoked assault with intent to kill, but witnesses say that Ford was accosted on the street in Cheraw, kicked by Stokes who was joined by several other white men who began to beat the colored boy. It is reported that the boy defended himself with a knife and escaped, finally reaching the army post where he enlisted. Colored citizens of Cheraw do not believe he will get a fair trial.

According to Mr. Guild, Ford has no criminal record and his military

record is of the best.

As soon as facts in the case are obtained the NAACP will take action.

Columbia, S. C. State
July 25, 1941

Police Crack Eight Thefts With Arrests

Eight store robberies in Columbia were declared solved last night by city police as the result of the arrest of three Negro youths who attempted Wednesday night to break into the Belk and White department store at 1306 Assembly street.

Lieut. Shep A. Griffith said the eight cases "cracked" by the arrests included three robberies at the Lower Main Street market, 901 Main street, and one each at the Ward One Meat market, 727 Main street; Market Exchange cafe, College and Main streets; the Sharpe market, 1216 Taylor street, and the Home Store at 1211 Pickens street.

He disclosed that the attempt to enter the Belk and White store was the second in three nights for the youthful trio, whom he identified as James Salters, 13, of the 1000 block of Devine street; Thomas Counts, 15, of No. 5 Pendleton court, and Leo Collins, 15, of the 800 block of Assembly street.

The first venture three days ago into the Belk and White store had been successful, Lieutenant Griffith said, and they had escaped with "a little change." But one of the boys—Counts—was nabbed Wednesday night by police when the trio tried it again and the other two, after they were identified by Counts, were arrested shortly afterwards at their homes.

The three were seen as they climbed on to a shed roof behind the department store and police, summoned quickly, responded as speedily. Two of the boys, however, dashed through the Jerome hotel and escaped through the front door to Main street. Counts was shot in the foot by Lieutenant Griffith, however, in an alley after he had crossed Lady street and run into an alley opening on Gervais street.

When the three were assembled at police headquarters yesterday, they admitted the eight other robberies—which netted cash ranging in one instance up to \$50 in one night, plus quantities of cigarettes and chewing gum—under questioning by Lieutenant Griffith, Detective Sgt. R. F. Broom and Detective C. K. Wescott and W. P. Eleazer.

RACE MAN SUES FOR EXCESSIVE CHARGES

MAR 22 1941

GREENVILLE, S. C. March 20 (ANP)—An effective body blow was delivered here last week to the relentless, implacable loan shark racket, when a Greenville county civil court returned a verdict awarding Richard Jones, colored railroad worker, a total of \$2,200.26 damages, in his suit against Smith Brokerage Co., Inc.

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SUIT UNCONTESTED

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Commissioners Report Farm And Stockade In "Excellent Shape"

A resolution commending the superintendent of the County Home and those in charge at the white and Negro stockades was unanimously passed yesterday afternoon by the County Board of Commissioners after members made an inspection trip of the county property, three miles northwest of the city.

The commissioners said they found the home and the two stockades "clean and well kept" and the farm and general property "in excellent condition."

The five commissioners and Supervisor James Hunter ate fresh hog meat and other food, produced on the farm, at a dinner served them at the new Negro Stockade.

The resolution commended Superintendent John Thomas Ashley of the County Home; Captain Zera C. Simpson of the white stockade, and Captain Gambrell Davis of the Negro stockade.

The board, at its December session, also passed a resolution that county employees and officials receive their December checks on December 20 instead of the usual time, the 25th, in order to have extra Yule purchasing funds.

Other matters were of routine nature.

All Members Present

All members were present and included Commissioners Ed Tate, Bill Gray, Ernest Murdock, Fred Dobbins, J. B. Trotter and Chairman Hunter.

15-1941

TENNESSEE

Commercial Appeal
Memphis, Tennessee
Tennessee's 'Gestapo'

Despite the filing of complaint affidavits with Governor Cooper and the indignation of citizens of Lynchburg, members of the State Highway Patrol are continuing their self-created war against workers at Camp Forrest, an activity which construction heads say is actually hindering the defense effort in that area.

FEB 17 1941

Last Thursday night two members of the patrol arrested 33 Camp Forrest workmen within the town limits of Lynchburg and when they could not get a magistrate to hear the cases, themselves levied \$6.50 penalties against them. Arrests were predicated on such trivial charges as failure to stop at intersections and having faulty rear lights. The activities of the patrolmen have been characterized as a "disgrace and a shame" by C. M. Waddell, county register. According to Mayor Wiseman the city is able to handle its traffic problems without the aid of the highway patrol.

The whole business savors of common, petty "shakedown" and of plain interference with local government. The state administration's repeated assertions of loyalty to the national defense effort will continue to have a hollow sound so long as these police methods continue to be countenanced. Surely Tennessee is not so hard up financially that she has to prey upon the pocketbooks of Camp Forrest workmen.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Free Press

January 14, 1941

Let's Hear From Public on This

Here's a poser from a Central High School student, asking the editor for advice and not contributed for publication, but it strikes at the heart of a prevailing weakness in Chattanooga and serves as a "peg" for discussion:

1. Why, in your opinion, do we have so many murders in our city?
2. Why are so many of them Negroes?
3. Specifically, what suggestions can you offer to reduce the homicides in our city?

Very truly yours,

BETTYE STEWART.

P. S.: We are making a study of this in our sociology class.

We wish we had ready a satisfactory answer to the inquiry of this young student and we hope that the study conducted by her sociology class will develop some conclusions which may guide us. No more beneficial sociological study can be undertaken here at this particular moment.

We can toss a few ideas into the hopper

of the discussion. We have asked Prof. Pope Dyer, teacher of the class which is engaged in this study, to give special attention to several factors. One is the always easy-to-invoke explanation of liquor. In connection with a disturbance on West Ninth Street some months ago, when prompt arrival and vigorous action by the police averted a rare riot, one white citizen who does business in the neighborhood telephoned to The News-Free Press that the free flow of liquor in that section had produced a chronic condition of danger. The study conducted by the class will determine just how many of these homicides where wholly or partly the result of drinking.

There are physiological instincts, notably of sex, which tend to make homicides more frequent among Negroes. Candor compels the admission, however, that living conditions, squalid homes and gathering places which bring them too close together and other influences growing out of poverty are the greatest contributing cause.

Let us say frankly that there are some inflammatory organizations and individuals that encourage the spirit of lawlessness by the eagerness with which they come to the defense of Negroes accused of heinous crimes, a defense which in nearly all such cases amounts to glorification of the criminals and denunciation of the courts of law. The Scottsboro case aftermath planted a defiant spirit in the breasts of many a colored citizen and none of the organizations which participated in that "defense" really was promoting the advancement of the race.

It has been the writer's pleasure to cry out many times against discriminatory Scout troops and similar organizations practices against Negroes in this city and on which teach love of country, with reverence several occasions we have gone to the mat for its institutions and obedience to its to obtain justice for individuals whom we considered to be unjustly treated. The late Squire Burch and the late Squire White, Negro Boy Scouts; and it is rare indeed Negro attorneys, practiced law for many years in Chattanooga in both police and criminal courts and each deserves a monument to his memory for services rendered his race. There was no defiance of the courts, no bitterness against their white neighbors, no tendency to condone crime of means, in chartering a scout troop at the Negro section of Bonny Oaks and two in but many a Chattanooga Negro, caught in an underprivileged area on the West Side, some trivial offense, owed his freedom or of one of these respected Negro lawyers to

the police judge, "He is a good Negro, not a save many real criminal."

These wise old-timers were in contrast with some of the firebrands of today. Some months ago, one of the "modern" group sent a letter to The News-Free Press attacking the Chattanooga police department as a horde of thugs and brutes, constantly beating and mistreating Negroes. Needless to say, no progress could be made toward reducing the homicide rate or checking other crimes among Negroes if that spirit really represented the sentiment of the big majority of Negroes. Fortunately, the majority of Chattanooga Negroes are good workers and law abiding and the killings are committed by the inflamed, poverty-stricken minority.

Former Commissioner Eugene Bryan's idea of enough additional policemen to provide policing "beats" on foot as in the old days is sound. The man on the beat can forestall trouble. The man in the radio car waits until trouble breaks. Present-day conditions of speed make the radio car essential; but it is regrettable that in the process of economy the "beats" have been abandoned.

An impractical suggestion and yet one that strikes at the bottom of the evil is better housing and living conditions; but such a solution goes deep into economic and social problems which bring in complicated issues. Anything which works in this direction, however, is helping to cure the conditions which lead to homicides.

Introduction of courses in the schools promoting respect for law and inter-racial friendliness would be most helpful. Another avenue of solution which has great potentialities is the encouragement of Boy Scout troops and similar organizations to obtain justice for individuals whom we considered to be unjustly treated. The late Squire Burch and the late Squire White, Negro Boy Scouts; and it is rare indeed Negro attorneys, practiced law for many years in Chattanooga in both police and criminal courts and each deserves a monument to his memory for services rendered his race. There was no defiance of the

help of several fine-spirited Chattanoogans in chartering a scout troop at the Negro section of Bonny Oaks and two in but many a Chattanooga Negro, caught in an underprivileged area on the West Side, some trivial offense, owed his freedom or Like the safety campaign saving "unlight punishment to the simple statement known" lives, the boy who is "rescued" from being a murderer is not conscious of it; but extension of the scout training will

eventually, the way to reduce homicides among Negroes is moral and religious development, aided by economic improvement through industrial and governmental processes.

Commercial Appeal
Memphis, Tennessee

RACE RIOT SENTENCED
TO COUNTY WORKHOUSE

FEB 14 1941

Figured In Police Shakeup Enters Guilty Plea

The Leonard Knight (Race Riot) case, which caused a drastic shakeup in the Memphis Police Department last Summer, ended in Criminal Court yesterday, with the sentencing of Knight to 11 months and 29 days in the workhouse for assault with intent to commit voluntary manslaughter.

Knight, 37-year-old West Memphis, Ark., negro, was indicted on charges of carrying a pistol and assault to murder another negro, Jim Ivery Smith, in Memphis last May. He pleaded guilty to assault to commit voluntary manslaughter and to the pistol charge. He was sentenced the same in each case, the sentences to run concurrently.

When Commissioner Boyle charged last Summer that former Capt. Frank Glisson had accepted a bribe for failing to docket Knight for the shooting, Officer Glisson was suspended for a month and reduced to rank of plain detective. Former Chief Lee and Former Inspector Clegg Richards were suspended also for failing to report the matter to the commissioner. Mr. Lee was retired on pension and Mr. Richards, reduced to rank of detective, later resigned.

Commercial Appeal
Memphis, Tennessee
ADmits FOOD STAMP PLOT

Negro Pleads Guilty in Federal Court Gets 60 Days

Tom Howard, negro, who had pleaded not guilty to food stamp violations when arraigned in Federal Court Tuesday, changed his plea to guilty yesterday and was sentenced to 60 days in jail. He was among persons indicted on Tuesday on the food stamp "racket," charged with defrauding the Government. Officers described him as a "runner" for a grocer.

ORANGE MOUND CLUB FAILS ITS MEMBERS

Dues Were For Fines But The Price Is \$356.

Eleven alleged members of a negro "protection" club which collects weekly dues of 25 cents per member as a fund to pay fines if any of its members get into "police trouble," were fined a total of \$356 on various charges in City Court yesterday.

Police testified the negroes were members of "Our Club," an Orange Mound organization which has made considerable trouble in that area in recent weeks. The members, police said, have beaten up several persons, caused rows and disturbances and otherwise created trouble.

The negroes, their charges and fines were:

Isaac Alexander, 19, of 848 Maywood, vagrancy, \$26, disturbing the peace, dismissed; Enzie McKenzie, 21, of 764 Laurel, disturbing the peace, \$11, vagrancy, \$26; Dave Lacey, 24, of 790 Hilton, assault and battery, \$26, disturbing the peace, \$11; Willie West, 17, of Rear 2803 Spottswood, disturbing the peace \$26, assault and battery, \$26, vagrancy, dismissed; Willie Lee Williams, 20, of 678 Pendleton, vagrancy, \$26, disturbing the peace, dismissed; James Henry Williams, 19, of 678 Pendleton, vagrancy, \$26, disturbing the peace dismissed.

Thea Claybourn, 18, of 674 Marianna, vagrancy, \$26, disturbing the peace, dismissed; Alvin Lewis, 17, of 2858 Douglass, disturbing the peace, dismissed, loitering, \$26; Elsworth Shaw, 17, of 2650 Carnes, disturbing the peace, \$11, using profanity, \$26; Howard Fletcher, 18, of 822 Bunting, disturbing the peace, \$11, loitering, \$26; and Lloyd Hornes, 17, of 2501 Carnes, loitering, \$26, disturbing the peace, dismissed.

All denied any knowledge of the club.

Nashville Tenn. Banner

April 3, 1941

PUT PATROLMEN ON BUSSES

The trouble that arose on a Lebanon Road bus last night between a white man and Negro, in which the former was seriously stabbed and a lady passenger cut in the course of the difficulty, admonishes the city government that steps should be taken to avert such clashes.

Nashville does not want race troubles, but such a bloody affair as that of last night conveys a warning that something should be done in connection with the bus service to prevent race rows.

It is highly advisable that at least a half dozen patrolmen should be placed, without uniform, in busses, and kept moving from one line to another to see that disorderly conduct be summarily stopped in its incipiency and that lawful traffic regulations be respected.

The Mayor and Chief of Police are forewarned by such an occurrence as that last night.

Commercial Appeal
Memphis, Tennessee

JIM SCOTT FINE PAID, NEGRO RETURNS HOME

APR 3 1941

\$44.10 raised for Release Of Prisoner

A check for \$44 was turned over yesterday to Penal Farm authorities and Jim Scott, who was serving out a \$51 City Court fine for carrying a pistol after a Criminal Court jury had acquitted him of the same charge, returned home to his wife and three children at 62 Waldorf.

APR 3 1941

The 35-year-old negro arrested last month for the alleged assault on another negro with a pistol, was fined \$51 and held to the state on the pistol charge by Judge Bates. In Criminal Court, Judge Wallace ordered the case dismissed, but Scott still had to pay his City Court fine or work it out at \$1 a day. The 22 days he had spent in jail awaiting trial were not marked up to his credit.

The money was raised to pay Scott's fine (he already had served seven days of his sentence) by sympathizers. A \$2 contribution from the Providence A. M. E. Church and a \$1 donation by a subscriber brought the total fund to \$44.10. The extra 10 cents paid Scott's car fare back to town.

APR 3 1941

Mayor Chandler, backed by Scott's City Court defense attorneys, held Monday that Judge Bateman's decision was just. He pointed to Scott's criminal record—a City Court fine 12 years ago for carrying a pistol.

Commercial Appeal
Memphis, Tennessee

FOUR NEGRO CONVICTS FLEE ROAD PROJECT

APR 3 1941

Shelby County Prisoners Overpower Two Guards

WIDE SEARCH UNDER WAY

Escapes Were Organized Gang Near Oakville—Six Other Members Of Group Refuse To Run

Four Shelby County Penal Farm prisoners, assigned to a road project on Shotwell, escaped yesterday morning after overpowering two guards and taking away their pistols.

The convicts, all negroes, were being sought by city and county authorities, but none had been recaptured last night.

Escape Near Oakville

O. B. Ellis, county commissioner of institutions, said the escape occurred on Shotwell about half a mile from Oakville where an "oil gang" of prisoners was completing a blacktopping project. The blacktopping had been finished and the crew was cleaning away the superfluous rock.

"The crew was divided," said Commissioner Ellis, "with part of the workers at one section of the road, and another group of 10, under Guard Roberts, farther down the road dumping rocks.

"A loaded truck, driven by Guard Tommy Archer, drove up and dumped its load there. As Archer stepped down from the truck, two of the negroes leaped on him and took his gun. The truck shielded the attack from Guard Roberts, who said the first thing he knew of what was happening was when one of the negroes stuck Archer's gun against his ear.

Six Prisoners Remain

"Two other negroes joined the escaping prisoners who fled by foot, but the other six in the group remained behind."

Commissioner Ellis identified the escaped convicts as follows:

Willie Walker of 983 Montgomery, serving a term of not more than three years for grand larceny, and 11 months and 29 days for petit larceny.

Willie Randle of 658 Scott, serving a term of not more than three years for housebreaking.

Will Thomas of 638 North Main, who completed a sentence of 11 months and 29 days in April, and

was serving a six-month term for authorities yesterday. They were driving a 1934 model auto when carrying a pistol.

Eddie Ford of 2871 Tutwiler who apparently having was serving a sentence of not more than five years for robbery and newer model machine which they took from Municipal Airport.

JUN 30 1941

Commercial Appeal
Memphis, Tennessee

THREE NEGRO CONVICTS ENJOY BRIEF FREEDOM

Shelby Escapees Caught By Mississippi Patrolman

ONE REMAINS AT LARGE

Highway Officer Stops Suspicious Auto At New Albany And Finds Prisoners Who Fled Here Friday

A drawn window shade on the back of a car slipping through New Albany, Miss. about midnight Saturday led State Highway Patrolman J. W. Warren to apprehend three of the four negroes who escaped from a Shelby County penal farm ~~run~~ gang Friday.

The stolen automobile in which the negroes left Shelby County shortly after overpowering two guards and taking away their pistols, was found abandoned at Tupelo, Miss. Saturday afternoon, and officers in that vicinity were warned to be on the alert for the trio.

Offered No Resistance

They were: Willie Randle, 26, of 658 Scott, serving a term of not more than three years for housebreaking; William Walker, 18, of 983 Montgomery, serving a term of not more than three years for grand larceny, and 11 months and 29 days for housebreaking, and Eddie Ford, 22, of 2871 Tutwiler, serving a term of not more than five years for robbery and carrying a pistol.

O. B. Ellis, county commissioner of institutions, said the negroes offered no resistance and readily admitted their identity to the Mississippi highway patrol.

Quintuplets At Large

The fourth negro, Will Thomas, alias Thompson, 40, of 638 North Main, left the other three immediately on making good his escape and is still at large, Commissioner Ellis said. He completed a sentence of 11 months and 29 days in April and was serving a 11 months' term for carrying a pistol.

Randle, Walker and Ford were returned here by Shelby County

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

POLICE SHOOT BOY ON WAY TO JAIL HOUSE

MEMPHIS Tenn. (SNS)—

Steve McQuirk, 21, of 716 East Georgia, was shot by Patrolman J. W. Summer early Saturday morning as the officer and his partner, Patrolman Dinkman, were taking the youth to police station for investigation, according to accounts in the Sunday's edition of the Commercial Appeal.

This condition late Saturday night was reported serious by attaches at John Gaston hospital. When the hospital was called Sunday evening regarding McQuirk's condition, the World was informed that McQuirk was not a patient there.

In his report to Chief Seabrook, Officer Summer said that he and his partner saw McQuirk tinkering with an automobile in the vicinity of Lucas and St. Paul. They placed the youth in their squad car, and when McQuirk attempted to escape, Summer drew his pistol. The officer alleged he shot McQuirk when he attempted to snatch his gun.

15-1941

Daily World

Atlanta Georgia

Memphis Mitchell Slaying

NOV 30 1941

In a recent edition of this publication . . . in fact on November 4th, attention was called to the general public of the increasing "hoodlumism" on part of a number of hot-headed youngsters who frequent football games, dances, and other places where crowds gather . . . apparently for the sole purpose of showing off. The editorial was prompted by the attempted slaying of the football coach at Manassas school when that institution had as its guests an out-of-town team and many visitors from St. Louis, Mo.

The spectacular gun display out at Manassas not only jeopardized the lives of several football attendants but presented the entire city in unfavorable light to visiting football fans.

NOV 30 1941

Three weeks later this same element in the community has committed murder, striking down in a ruthless manner Wilburn H. Mitchell, cafe owner and operator, and one of the race's leading business men in Memphis. The slayer employed typical gangster method in that he was deliberate in his act. In this case, the killer, took deadly aim at his victim, and for all intent and purpose, went about killing his man as though his mission of destruction was planned to its minutest detail.

It is easily imaginable, altho it's a matter for the court to determine, that ulterior motives actuated the Mitchell slaying. The slayer led a gang of four or five companions into Mitchell's cafe and started general disturbance. Evidence indicates that they were bent on trouble. Coaxing or pleading by Mitchell and his wife for them to respect their place was of no avail. They persisted in cursing, and finally began throwing bottles all over the place. After setting the stage it appears, the slayer went for a Winchester rifle . . . evidently in the immediate vicinity of the restaurant, and shot his victim in the back.

The operation of a Negro business, under most favorable conditions is a tough assignment. Mitchell and his wife had undertaken to do the job on a high class basis. They built up a reputable eating house that represented the pride of the better class of people here. Yet it was a public place, and naturally their business was to cater to everyone irrespective of class or rank.

Mitchell's death is the final answer to flagrant violation of the law.

NOV 30 1941

It now becomes the immediate duty of every right thinking citizen of the race and city to fight these firebrands with every weapon of the law. And there are laws with which to do this job perchance the Negro citizenry of Memphis is not aware of the fact.

They were placed on the statute books to cope with hoodlums and killers.

It is to be hoped by all those who believe in the sanctity of human life that the person guilty of the cold-blooded murder of Wilburn Mitchell will be swiftly and adequately punished for this wanton killing. Especially, Memphis Negroes will watch this case through with due interest.

-From Memphis (Tenn.) World.

TENNESSEE

15-1941

Chattanooga, Tenn., Daily Times
January 29, 1941

POLICE HEADS TO SPEAK TO COLORED MINISTERS

Commissioner E. R. Betterton, of the department of fire and police, and Police Chief Ray Bryan, will speak to the Colored Interdenominational Ministers' alliance on crime conditions among Chattanooga Negroes, it was announced yesterday by the Rev. C. J. Stanley, president, following the regular meeting of the alliance at Warren Chapel Monday.

The Rev. Stanley and a committee from the alliance have been in conference with the officials, and out of next Monday's meeting is expected to grow some definite plan of action for help from the colored ministry, he said.

The last meeting was featured by the enlargement of committees, and was largely attended.

Memphis, Tenn., Commercial Appeal
February 14, 1941

'RACE RIOT' SENTENCED TO COUNTY WORKHOUSE

Figured In Police Shakeup En- ters Guilty Plea

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When Commissioner Boyle charged last Summer that former Capt. Frank Glisson had accepted a bribe for failing to docket Knight for the shooting, Officer Glisson was suspended for a month and reduced to rank of plain detective. Former Chief Lee and Former Inspector Clegg Richards were suspended also for failing to report the matter to the commissioner. Mr. Lee was retired on pension and Mr. Richards, reduced to rank of detective, later resigned.

TENNESSEE

Globe and
Independent
Nashville, Tenn.

Negro Arrested ON Lottery Charge

Culus Hayes, 40, 2519 Heiman Street, a Negro often charged with being a right hand man of Bill James in operating a numbers racket, was arrested on another lottery charge yesterday after a raid on 413 Howerton Street by the city whisky squad.

James and Hayes were tried together in Criminal Court last month on lottery charges and acquitted after their attorney, Jack Norman, presented the court with 17 alibi witnesses.

Detectives Joe Marsherello, A. T. Inman, E. H. Ivie and J. C. Tylor said last night that they raided, in a search for illegal whisky and found it, charging Lige Payne, 31, with bone dry violation in possessing three gallons of untaxed white corn whisky. They said they also found several hundred numbers tickets in the possession of Hayes and then found more of them in the upholstery of his car.

Commercial Appeal Memphis, Tennessee NEGRO WILL FACE TRIAL

Returned To Ripley From Phoenix,
Ariz.

Special to the Commercial Appeal
RIPLEY, Tenn., July 3.—Robert Lee Stanton, alias Eugene Crockett, 31 year old Lauderdale County negro, a fugitive from justice, was apprehended in Phoenix, Ariz., Monday and returned here Thursday by Deputies J. S. Walpole, A. M. Scott, Mel Scott and Lauren Shoaf, a son of Sheriff Shoaf who made the trip. He was placed in jail and will have to answer an indictment returned against him for the alleged first degree murder of Willie Reynolds, negro. Feb. 22, 1931.

Unjust Police And A Just Judge (EDITORIAL)

City police on Saturday night of last week, according to testimony, went into a colored beauty parlor on Cedar street officials who can point to a record of service and arrested two of the young women vice in office that complies with the operators at the beauty parlor. They also arrested a man who operates a place of business next door. He had merely gone into the beauty parlor to chat briefly with the young women.

The three persons were hauled away in the police patrol and put in jail. They had to put up \$5.00 to get released. On Monday these persons were taken to court and tried. They were tried on the charge of "disorderly conduct" preferred by the police. The police made out their case of "disorderly conduct" in an effort to prove that they were justified in invading a private place of business without a warrant. They could not

prove and would not say the young women or the man were under the influence of liquor. They appeared to rely upon the belief that merely saying that the arrested persons were "disorderly" was proof enough.

But it didn't work that way.

All three persons were set free.

The judge who dismissed the case and required that the money extracted from the young people be returned to them was Judge ~~John~~ ^{JUN} Smith.

There is nothing unusual about these kinds of arrests by Nashville police.

And there also is nothing unusual in Judge Smith's refusal to send to the police are not under a "whip and lash," workhouse citizens who have been unlawfully arrested.

Judge Smith has refused to run the City Court as a "racket" as so many courts that deal largely with poor people are operated. Judge Smith adheres to the spirit ~~of the 3at~~ ^{JUN} well as the letter.

Many times we wonder if the masses of both the white and Negro races are fully appreciative of the courage elected officials, in an effort to stop false arrests and the unjust treatment of citizens in refusing to allow the City Court to cens by police officers will get any become an institution devoted to exploitation. But it will give all a clear con-

science that they tried to do something about this evil.

It will also give a good text to talk on when these officials come around again soliciting ~~it's~~ ^{JUN} them back in office so that they can "do justice by all of the people," which you can bet they will be saying most eloquently.

Knoxville, Tenn., Journal
August 30, 1941

Daily World
Atlanta, Georgia

Violence Mars Negro Fair

Trouble, that City Council was assured Tuesday would never occur at the East Tennessee Colored Fair, flared Thursday night, resulting in Frank A. Lucien, 26, white Oakland, R. I., being taken to Knoxville General Hospital for head wounds.

Lucien, an employe of Scotts Exposition Show, was struck over the head with a bottle by a Negro patron, into whose face police said he admitted having thrown coffee the night before to end an argument.

Council once granted, then revoked, and last Tuesday again put into effect a contract with the colored fair. Welfare Director John T. O'Connor had revoked the permit to hold the fair upon representations of American Legion Post No. 80. Sponsors of the Legion exhibit had argued that the present carnival had been sent over deliberately to "skim the cream off their profits."

Commercial Appeal
Memphis, Tennessee

DRIVER IS SENTENCED IN GIRL'S AUTO DEATH

Negro Whose Car Killed

Myrtle Balko Gets 90 Days

SEP 2 1941
Cornelius Earthman, 39, negro, driver of the car which struck and killed Myrtle Balko, 6-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Balko of Brooks Avenue, on June 12, pleaded guilty yesterday in Judge Harsh's Criminal Court to a charge of involuntary manslaughter and was sentenced to 90 days in Penal Farm.

The child was struck by Earthman's car as she walked with her older brother to a neighbor's house to get some milk, according to the attorney general's office. The Balko family had moved from Memphis into the county only a few days before to get the children off the busy streets.

Earthman is a chauffeur for Col. Walter Canada, Memphis attorney.

Butcher Indicted On Mayhem Charge

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (SNS) —

Charged with placing the fingers of a 11-year-old boy into a meat grinder, John Ciaramitano, white, 21-year-old butcher, of 736 Washington, was indicted Tuesday by Shelby County grand jury. The indictment came following an investigation of the case which city Judge Kinkle ordered after the youngster, James Orr, 653 1-2 S. Willington, and his mother failed to appear in city court during an earlier setting of the case last week.

Orr charged that Ciaramitano shoved his fingers into the grinder when he objected to him (James) coming into the meat department. The accused butcher asserted that Orr accidentally caught his hand in the grinder.

Brought to court by police officers, the youth's mother said that they had been "paid to stay away from court," and upon her testimony the City Court Judge ordered a full investigation.

It was disclosed, however, during the investigation that the store owner, S. R. Pretti, white, had consulted an attorney about protecting himself against any future civil action for damages resulting from charges made against one of his employees. Parents of the injured boy were paid \$25.00 in cash and cancellation of a \$40 grocery bill to offset any future civil suit.

Charge Grocer Put Child's Fingers Into Meat Grinder

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — City

Judge Kinkle, Tuesday ordered the charge changed from assault and battery to mayhem and held John Ciaramitano, 21, butcher, of 736 Washington, to the grand jury in connection with charges that he shoved the fingers of James Orr, age 11, into a meat grinder September 11 at his grocery store. Ciaramitano denied the charge.

Judge Kinkle also ordered a thorough investigation of charges that the boy and his mother had

Commercial Appeal
Memphis, Tennessee

Negro Fined \$103

Accused of molesting a Memphis housewife, Andrew Richardson, 20, negro, of 1557 Monsarrat, was fined a total of \$103 in City Court yesterday on charges of soliciting, disorderly conduct and disturbing the peace. The complainant identified Richardson as the negro who sought several times to pick the woman up in his auto as she was walking at Lombard and Union after her car had broken down Tuesday night. SEP 2 1941
The negro denied the charges.

Commercial Appeal
Memphis, Tennessee

NEGRO WOMAN IS FINED

Admits Striking Four Small White Boys With Leather Strap

Judge Kinkle levied fines of \$102 in City Court Tuesday against a one-armed negro woman after she admitted striking four small white boys with a heavy leather strap in front of her home Monday night.

The negro, Florence McKee, of 282 Auction, was fined \$51 each on charges of assault and battery and disturbing the peace. She admitted she gave the 8-year-old lads a "strapping," but insisted she did not hit them hard. She said she struck them because the boys came back to play in her yard after she had run them off.

The boys, accompanied to court by their parents, testified they were looking for three pennies they had dropped in front of the negro's home when she struck them across the back with the strap and told them to get away.

Greenville, Tenn., Sun

November 12, 1941

The Harvest

After World War No. 1, there was an exodus of Negroes from the Southern States, many of them finding a haven in that quarter of New York City known as Harlem.

Harlem has suddenly appeared as the scene of crimes innumerable, the great number of mounted police and patrolmen have not been able to reduce the nightly robberies and murders. One killing particularly, has aroused public resentment, that of a twelve year old boy stabbing another boy in the back until he was dead. The cause of this resurgence of crime is not far to seek, these boys, from twelve to twenty years of age, are of the second generation of immigrants from the South.

15-1941

Gorilla Man to Take Bride If Present Plans Work Out

While Giant Negro Paces Jail Cell Here, Anita Johnson, 30, Arranges for Wedding

Dan Jackson, the Gorilla Man, giant negro charged in a dozen Houston burglaries, will become a bridegroom Wednesday if present plans work out.

Dan paced his county jail cell Tuesday ~~July 30 1941~~ Aug 9 1941 Anita Johnson, 30-year-old negro woman, made arrangements for a marriage license and a physical examination for Dan as required by law.

If things go smoothly, the wedding will take place Wednesday afternoon, either in the jail or some other part of the criminal courts building.

Judge Langston G. King probably will try Dan on the 12 burglary charges indicated he was willing to perform the marriage ceremony, if asked.

"I haven't been approached by the interested parties yet, though," the judge said.

The negro, who is 37 years old, stands six feet, four inches tall and weighs 280 pounds, was arrested on July 16 by Houston officers near Nome, Texas. Anita Johnson, his bride-to-be, was in the car with him when he was arrested. Dan is charged in 12 burglaries here and five in Corpus Christi. He has been to the penitentiary three times before.

Dan said he wanted to get married because he had a piano and some other property he wanted his girl friend to have goes to prison.

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Union Offers Reward for Dallas Terrorists

DALLAS, Tex. — As a result of the wave of terrorism and violence against colored residents here, the American Civil Liberties Union has offered a reward of \$1,000 for information leading to the imprisonment of those responsible for the bombing, burning and firing upon, of at least sixteen homes since last September in efforts to prevent their legal occupancy.

At the same time the union called on President Roosevelt and

TEXAS

Negro Assessed Eight Years in Burglary Here

A jury in Judge Langston G. King's court Monday found Willie Holmes, 29-year-old negro of 708 Delano, guilty of burglary and sentenced him to eight years in the penitentiary.

Holmes, who had been to the penitentiary twice before for burglary, made a confession that he entered the office of the Standard Roofing company, 1002 West Dallas, on the night of July 14 and stole a check-writing machine. He used the machine to forge two checks which he passed, he said in his confession.

On the witness stand the negro said police kicked his legs, stamped on his feet and hit him on the head to force him to make the confession, but he admitted the statements in the confession were true.

been suppressed, or at least impeded, by the vice squad—recently and more elegantly entitled the morals division.

However, when raids were made on six places Monday morning and 29 negroes and one white man were arrested, no one was more surprised than Captain Stodghill, who had been out seizing marble tables in the same vicinity.

Met at Rendezvous

The raids were carried out in the git-thar-fustest-with-the-mostest-men technique introduced some months ago when Ashworth cracked down on the bookshops and the marble tables. Twenty-four picked policemen assembled at a secret rendezvous, heard instructions from Captain Tom Eubanks and then made six simultaneous raids at 11 a. m.

Sixteen negroes were charged before Justice W. C. Ragan with running policy games. The other 13 and the white man were charged in police court with loitering. Four of the negroes were women.

Seize Policy Slips

Rallying from his surprise as night fell, Captain Stodghill called in the men of the morals division, most of whom had been on duty at the circus grounds. They made two raids themselves, one in the 1600 block of Fairview and one in the 3600 block of Sauer. At the first place they found nothing but some bookkeeping records, apparently dealing with past operations of a game. At the second place they seized about 300 pounds of note paper, policy slips, dream books and the like.

Police Chief Ray Ashworth and Captain D. T. Stodghill of the vice squad directed successive but unsynchronized raids on negro policy games Monday.

Traditionally in Houston police work, all forms of gambling have

Two negroes were arrested.

Negro Preacher Cleared of Charge He Stole Church

The grand jury Wednesday cleared a negro preacher of a charge of stealing his church and parsonage.

It voted a no bill in the felony theft case of Rev. David Anderson, 50, pastor of the Church of God and Christ.

The pastor was charged with dismantling and moving the church and parsonage from its location at 4020 Providence after the lot on which the buildings were located was bought at a foreclosure sale by Jeff Chapman of 1615 Harold.

Rev. Anderson testified at the examining trial that the church congregation bought the lot in 1937 and erected the buildings. He said he did not think the improvements were included in the foreclosure sale of the property.

3 Negroes Held

In Liberty, Dayton Holdups, Shooting

Beaumont Man

Wounded in Cafe

LIBERTY, Oct. 23.—(Sp)—Three negroes were captured Thursday night after robbing a negro cafe here and a safe for white people at Dayton, and wounding a customer in the second place.

Deputy Sheriff J. Y. Calloway of Dayton and Constable Jim Delaney of Liberty captured the men on the outskirts of Barbers Hill after an automobile chase. The negroes surrendered without resistance.

The robbers held up three negro men and a woman at the Liberty cafe, getting about \$10 and a watch. Officers were notified and started a search.

A little while later the negroes appeared at a cafe in Dayton, six miles west of Liberty. The owner, Mrs. Ann Flowers, was inside, with two waitresses and two men customers. One of the negroes drew a pistol and ordered the five whites to raise their hands.

One of the customers was J. M. Marburger, Beaumont produce man. He did not realize that a holdup

was in progress and was slow in raising his hands.

The negro shot him through the back. The two girls helped Marburger through the back door while the negro, paying them no more attention, took about \$10 from Mrs. Flowers' cash box. The three negroes then drove away.

Admits Shooting

Marburger was taken to a Liberty hospital. He was expected to recover.

The two officers caught the negroes when the latter took the wrong turn at a sharp curve on the edge of Barbers Hill.

Sheriff Pat C. Lowe of Liberty county said one of the negroes, Earl Oxendine of Goose Creek, admitted shooting Marburger and also said he was the driver of the car for the trio.

Negroes Identified

The other negroes, who also admitted taking part in the robberies, said they were Edwin Irby of Cody and Archie Hollingsworth of near Goose Creek.

The people robbed at each place identified the negroes.

Oxendine's gun was a .380 automatic. No weapon was found on the other negroes. All were taken to the Liberty county jail. No charges had been filed.

Police Returning Coat Lost Here By Solon's Wife

Police are returning a \$400 fur coat which Mrs. Lyndon Johnson, wife of the congressman, lost in Houston last week.

A negro man and woman found the coat on the sidewalk on Gillette street Saturday morning. They took it to L. C. Elrod, owner of a cleaning shop at 1419 West Webster, and asked his help in locating the owner.

Elrod took the negroes and the coat to the police station where the negroes were released after satisfying officers that they had found the coat.

Picked Cops Under Eubanks Capture 30

Aged Man, On Trial For Life, Slain In Court

**Stabbed To Death
By Husband of
Slain Woman**

LUFKIN, Texas — Ten minutes after he went on trial for his life in Angelina County here Monday, a 70-year old man was stabbed to death by the husband of the woman whom the aged victim was alleged to have slain with an axe last August.

NOV 29 1941
Sheriff H. C. Billingsly said that the aged man was Mott Flounory who was accused of the axe slaying of Mrs. Roy Morehouse, white. Morehouse, who calmly walked over to the chair where Flounory was sitting and plunged a pocket knife in his chest, was released on \$5,000 bond after a charge of murder had been placed against him.

Texas Ranger R. D. Holliday, who made the arrest, said the bond was signed by 44 Angelina County residents.

Among the first of several suspects to be questioned in connection with Mrs. Morehouse's death, Flounory was questioned in Beaumont by Texas Rangers and is said to have subsequently signed a confession admitting the slaying.

NOV 29 1941
During the past year similar killing took place in another Texas court, when the husband of a white woman, allegedly raped shot and killed the accused colored man. The killer was later freed, when the prosecutor refused to demand punishment.

15-1941

Negro Labor News

Houston, Texas

WHY THE SUDDEN ARRESTING AND MOLESTING OF SO MANY NEGRO CITIZENS?

The Negro citizenry of Houston was alarmed this week when uniformed policemen arrested and beat a number of peaceful and respectful citizens without any provocation whatsoever.

The climax of police brutality was reached early this week in the 400 block of Milam Street when two young men, a barber and a porter, were taken from the Oregon Barber Shop and jailed because they were caught asleep. The men were charged with vagrancy.

Another man standing on the corner of Milam was arrested and beaten Tuesday night when he stepped off a curb before the signal light came on. Two officers threw him in the car saying he stuck out his tongue at them.

We know that Houston, one of the bright business spots in the great southwest, is attracting criminals of all races and the police force must be on the alert. The better class of Negroes here are willing to do their part in helping run down criminals just as other people.

MAR 29 1941
It is not encouraging at all — when policemen take men from their places where they pay rent and put them in jail just because they are caught taking a nap during a dull hour. If such a practice was carried out throughout the city there would not be enough jail space to accommodate the violators.

It is creating hysteria when law abiding citizens are forced to fear the sight of uniformed policemen. Negroes, like all other citizens, want to feel that a policeman is for their protection.

Some contribute the reason why Negroes are being arrested or minor charges is because an officer's promotion or to remain on the job depends upon the number of arrests he makes. In order to make a showing with the new chief, some officers are attempting to make Negroes as their stepping-stones.

We do not question the method of the police department in promoting its officers but it is certainly unfair to the Negroes and any other citizen to be hauled to jail just to show that a policeman is on his duty.

MAR 29 1941
The citizens' committee composed of business men, white and colored, took a wise step when they brought the matter of police brutality up with Chief Ashworth. According to his reputation he will not approve police brutality or mistreatment to any particular group.

Negro Labor News

Houston, Texas

**JOHN GRAY CASE
DISMISSED BY DISTRICT COURT**

APR 29 1941

Youth Arrested Following Officer's Shooting On Defense Project At Camp Hitchcock

GALVESTON, Texas. John Gray, Jr., was freed here Friday, in the tenth Judicial District Court on

TEXAS

to him:

"Boy, bring me up some dice"
"I don't have any", Gray replied.
"Search yurself", Owens demanded.

Gray then turned his pockets out. "Pull off the jacket", was the next order. **APR 29 1941**

"Put it back on", he demanded.

Then Gray was ordered to hit the highway. As he started off Owens fired his pistol three times, one bullet striking just above the right ankle penetrating and lodging in the bone where it still remains.

Other witnesses testified the officer denied Gray ambulance service to the hospital. Instead he took the wounded boy to an army camp but made him wash and bandage his own wound. Then he took him back to the scene of the shooting and left him.

Through a friend Gray was finally carried to Galveston in a car. By the time they reached the courthouse in an attempt to file charges, Officer Owens had trailed them and took Gray to be locked up. The jailer, seeing the boy was bleeding and needed medical attention, refused to admit. Gray was then taken back to Hitchcock and finally to the John Sealey Hospital at Galveston.

Gray testified that he was beaten by the officer, cursed and abused and threatened to be thrown in the bay. All this time he said he did not know he was under arrest.

Officer Files Charges Week Later

About a week later charges of resisting an officer, breach of peace and gaming, were filed against Gray by Officer Owens in the Justice of the Peace Court, one mile from Alta Loma.

APR 29 1941
At the hearing in the Justice Court at Alta Loma January 27, Gray was fined \$25 and cost on gaming. The other charges were dismissed. Thorough Gray's attorney F. S. K. Whittaker of Houston, the case was appealed. The case was heard April 18 at Galveston and was dismissed.

Civil Action

According to testimony brought out at the trial, Gray, 23, in company with a group of whites and Negroes while waiting to apply for work, were sitting and standing around a fire across the highway from the project.

Officer Owens is said to have left his car on the highway and went over to the group and singled out John ("Curley") Gray, Jr., and said

Negro Labor News

Houston, Texas

Crime Rampant In Houston

MAY 3 1941

Many people have heard the term "Heavenly Houston" applied to the big, ragged, sloven city, Houston, Texas. People who live in other cities and states have heard the term or appellation and have formed wrong conceptions of Houston, and today, thousands of people who have never been to Houston are labouring under blissful delusions.

They think, many at least, that Houston is a veritable paradise on earth. They cannot imagine anything unpleasant, disgraceful or horrifying ever occurring here. I hope the people who think such pleasing thoughts regarding Houston will never come here, because if they do, they will find ambulances speeding through the streets daily, carrying men and women, who have been cut or shot,

through a friend. Here they will find drunkenness prevailing in our streets, and policy barons and hunting houses exist for the purpose.

Dreds of their nickel and dime pick-

Decoys are set up and sent out to agents operating as bold as lions learn 12, 13, 14, 15, etc year-old among lambs. In Houston one will school girls into these places. When

find houses of prostitution conducted by many American church members (Not Christians). You see, in America you do not have to be a Christian to be a member of a church.

MAY 3 1941
Four Thousand Prostitutes

The daily papers of Houston pointed out last week the disgraceful truth that there are no less than 4000 prostitutes in Houston. Of course the great majority of these are with which to protect themselves.

white people. You see, all white people are not angels. They were the first crowd in America that started

on the march to hell.

Later, when colored people had marched a few years distance from home from school, and never dreamt the days when they were chattel that they have spent some time in a house of prostitution located between the girl's home and the school. Another sad thing about this juvenile prostitution matter is that there they too, took up the habits of the white man and joined him in his hellward march. However, colored women, who specialize in getting people in Houston and outside of their hands on any school girl she Houston must not sit by and aman for white men. I keep my hands magine that there is not an ever increasing crowd of colored women not want them, and I do not want and girls who are making their liv-

ing by the sale of their bodies to any man who has the price they want, and I am informed that some want as little as fifteen cents.

Forrestville, MAY 3 1941

There are large numbers of houses in Houston that do not cater to the street corner human rats, who wait by night for some mother's young son or some woman's husband. They are in business for two reasons, namely, first, to make some dishonest money or themselves, and, secondly, to furnish accommodations for a large number of prostitutes who never get counted nor caught. They are concealed behind church membership. Some of them sing in church choirs, work in women's missionary societies, serve on usher boards, while others teach in our Sunday schools. They are mingled with our best people. You see, there are thousands on top of thousands of very fine, honest, clean people in Houston. **MAY 3 1941**

There is another type of prostitute to our hospitals. Here they will find tion that is spreading like a cancer drunkenness prevailing in our streets, and policy barons and hunting houses exist for the purpose. Decoys are set up and sent out to agents operating as bold as lions learn 12, 13, 14, 15, etc year-old among lambs. In Houston one will school girls into these places. When

find houses of prostitution conducted by many American church members (Not Christians). You see, in America you do not have to be a Christian to be a member of a church. very seldom taken in by those who run houses, therefore, they slip away from by night on the pretense that

these little fellows of these ages are run houses, therefore, they slip away from by night on the pretense that

colored girls and women. The white man's prejudice fixed the law of group separation and I am expecting him to abide by it or abolish it. What is fair for one is fair for the other. Now, Mr. white man, you stay with your crowd. I respect your women and I am expecting, yes, I am demanding that you respond. Prostitution must be given death blow, but as long as our homes are rearing them, as long many of our mothers are practicing this terrible sin in what they call nice houses, as long as the fathers spend their money in these so-called nice places it will be a pretty hard job. You see, there is no such thing as making prostitution nice. I am told that there is a place in our city that claims to be strictly exclusive and charges transients \$5 per room per few hours, but fine furniture, carpets, rugs, lights and private bath do not make prostitution nice. It is not the location but the practice. It follows, therefore, that the prostitute in a \$5 room, and one who sings in a choir in a church or college is just as nasty in the sight of God as the prostitute in the streets or on short McCall, West Dallas or Arthur street.

MAY 3, 1941
Christianity Challenged

When one looks about him and sees our streets filled with murderers who have drawn light suspended sentences in our courts; when he sees how many men and women, girls and boys are killed in Houston every week; when one rides by night and sees a large number of cars of professional, business men, public school teachers, and, some times preachers, parked at these supposed nice places, that is, these unsuspected houses of prostitution; when one sees how the policy racket is taking bread out of little children's mouths and robbing us and when he sees teen age school school girls ducking in and darting out of these houses run for the purpose, he wonders where is the church and what is she doing. These things constitute a real problem for Christianity. What are we, who say we represent Christ, going to do about these things? We thank God for thousands who have not bowed their knees to Baal.

MAY 3, 1941

Let us put on a campaign to clean up our city. But let us start by letting Jesus, in His Holy Spirit, clean up our hearts first. Because as long as we have houses of prostitution, policy saloons, etc. in our hearts, we will continue to have them in our city and communities. You cannot change the nature and habits of a

jack ass by changing his stable or barn and putting him into a nicer and larger barn and giving him better food. These will never make a race horse out of him. He must be made over. Made again. Even so, with men. They must be made again. Jesus told Nicodemus, a Ph.D. in psychology and philosophy in his day, that he needed to be born again. Belief in our philosophers and psychologists and unbelief in God leads to more and more crime. Faith in Christ and human life dedicated to His cause eliminates crime. —Selth.

Negro Labor News

Houston, Texas

TOO MUCH AGITATION

There appears to be too much agitation going on in Houston for the good of our interracial relations and industrial peace. Nearly everywhere in colored sections we can hear remarks and witness actions that if not stopped, will eventually lead to a bitter clash between the races.

A few weeks ago a group of rowdy (white) youth attacked and beat almost unconscious a Negro man and terrorized his wife while they stood on the corner waiting for a bus on Travis street. The man said he reported the incident to police but did not get any protection.

Last Saturday a white man is reported to have boarded a bus enroute to a Negro section. The bus was crowded and passengers were forced to stand almost to the front of the bus. When the man got on, it is said, he immediately began to holler at the Negroes stating that he would kick them to the back using abusive language. When a Negro made some remark the white man displayed his pistol and continued to quarrel until he got off. Such occurrences are provocative of riots.

We understand the Communist element is taking advantage of the Bob White situation at Conroe to stir further trouble in this section. Continued agitation will not make matters better here.

Interracial relations at Houston have been as amicable as any in other Southern sections. White citizens generally cooperate with Negroes in trying to help improve the general conditions of the Negro race. Prominent citizens are working hard for the justice of the Negro as all other groups. They help support the Negro Chamber of Commerce as well as religious and civic organizations.

It takes time to bring about social changes for any people. Our leaders should not discourage those who try to help us. It matters not that is said, the salvation of the Negro in this country rests in the Negro's ability to secure and maintain the goodwill of the leadership of the white race. This can not be done by waving RED flags or following leadership of disgruntled agitators.

Houston Cops Jail Gorilla Man in 350 Burglaries

A giant negro known to the Houston police as the Gorilla Man and to negroes in the Fifth ward as the Phantom of the Fifth Ward was arrested Wednesday for questioning in 350 recent burglaries in Houston, Corpus Christi and San Antonio.

JUL 17 1941

Several hours after his arrest the Gorilla Man, who said his name was Dan Jackson, was charged before Justice W. C. Ragan with the burglary July 14 of the home of C. E. Floyd, 3602 Liberty road. Two watches, a watch chain and 80 cents were taken in the burglary.

Will File More Charges

The police said more charges will be filed Thursday.

The Gorilla Man and three negro women companions were taken into custody by District Attorney's Investigator A. C. Martindale and Detectives B. E. Williams and Roxie Simmons on the highway near Nome, 18 miles from Houston, in Jefferson county.

Martindale said the negroes were in a car driving toward Houston. The officers saw up alongside the car and Simmons pushed a sawed-off shotgun through the window at the Gorilla Man while Martindale and Williams covered him with pistols.

Pistol in Purse

The Gorilla Man, who stands three inches above six feet and weighs 280 pounds, made a move to grab a purse belonging to one of the women, but then thought better of it and submitted to arrest, Martindale said. The officers discovered later the purse contained a .38 pistol.

Twice last March 9 the Gorilla Man escaped from Corpus Christi officers trying to arrest him. Taking no chances, the three Houston officers placed two pairs of handcuffs on him and then took him and his women companions to the city jail.

Admits Burglaries

At the police station the negro admitted a number of burglaries in Houston the past three months, but denied knowing anything about any burglaries in Corpus Christi and San Antonio. He admitted being in Corpus Christi recently, the officers said, but claimed he was working there.

The Houston police department will question him about 100 recent burglaries here. Charges will be filed after he is questioned, officers said.

Smiling, apparently unconcerned about his arrest, the Gorilla Man talked freely about his two escapes from Corpus Christi police. Just Walked Off

He said the first time he was arrested the officers took him to his home, apparently to search it for stolen property, and he just walked off while their backs were turned.

Later in the day he was arrested at his father's home. He said the officers hurt his arm while they were placing handcuffs on him, so he shook it a little. The shake of his arm knocked one of the officers down and the Gorilla Man fled. The officer went to the hospital for three weeks, but the negro said here Wednesday he did not know he had injured the man.

Served Two Terms

The negro said he has served two terms in the penitentiary from Harris county for burglary.

At the time of his arrest he had a watch in his pocket which Martindale said came from a Houston burglary. In one of the women's purses was some jewelry which the officer said was also taken from a Houston home.

The police department described the Gorilla Man's arrest as "the catch of the year."

Negro Labor News

Houston, Texas

"GORILLA MAN" TAKEN TO CORPUS FOR INQUIRY

Dan Jackson the sensation "Gorilla Man" who was apprehended here last week for participation in over 150 burglaries has been taken to Corpus Christi, where he is also wanted for burglarizing.

Jackson was filed against on 11 charges with other charges being dropped because they simply cluttered up the books.

The "gorilla man's" activities were circulated throughout the city but the majority of his burglaries were committed in the North Side area thickly populated with Negroes and the East End area which is principally white.

Jackson's burglaries were committed during the past 18-month period, and on a cruise with city police positively identified over 58 home in Houston that he had entered and looted.

The loot which has been recovered in part by the police has been valued at approximately \$1500.

Persons whose homes have been

looted in the 18 months may call at the police station to identify any piece of article that may have been recovered in this roundup.

15-1941

VIRGINIA

Newport News Va. Press
January 10, 1941

NEGRO GROUP

HEARS CHIEF

FILE PETITION
FOR WRIT IN
WALLER CASE

Seek New Trial In Action
To Reverse Verdict In
Sharecropper Slaying

FEB 8 1941

RICHMOND, Va. Petition

A policeman is just a man, trying to do his duty like other men, Chief of Police James M. Peach said last night in an address before a moderate-sized audience of Negro citizens at the Negro community center.

Peach, who took office Jan. 1, told the audience that he wanted the parents to teach their children that "I am their friend, and that I am your friend; I am trying to protect you."

The chief was introduced by J. Thomas Newsome, prominent Negro attorney, who spoke of him as "a man who knows human nature" and is thoroughly fair. The program included selections by the Huntington high school chorus, directed by Mozart T. Frazier, and two solos by Susie Travis with John J. Ballou as accompanist. The invocation was offered by Rev. I. Benjamin Pierce of Walters Temple A. M. E. church.

Peach, who a couple of years ago took a special course of police training in the school of the Federal Bureau of Investigation at Washington and a short course last summer, described in considerable detail the co-operative services rendered police departments by the FBI. He remarked that he believed he learned more about police work in the FBI course than in all his 17 years as a member of the local department.

He remarked that the crime ratio here is considerably lower than in many cities. Citing figures on the high proportion of crimes committed by persons 16 to 22 years of age, Peach contended that the basic cause of the prevalence of youthful criminals is parental neglect and carelessness.

The chief said the community center, with a constructive program of activities for leisure time, should have considerable influence as a crime-preventive. He asked the co-operation of all present with the police department.

The league hopes especially to focus public attention on the whole sharecropper and tenant farmer problem in the South and the question of poll tax discrimination against millions of whites and Negroes in elections and courts of justice.

Chicago Defender
Chicago, Illinois
Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

Washington Post
Washington, D. C.

Va. Police Chief
APR 22 1941
Shoots Negro

Who Wounds Him

South Hill, Va., April 21 (AP).— Town Sergt. S. S. Buggs said Chief of Police B. L. Smithson was shot in the hand and struck on the head with a blackjack today by a Negro who earlier had sought to evade service of a warrant by Constable John Keeton. Smithson shot the Negro, Willie Hatchell, in the stomach during the encounter. Bugg re-reported,

The town sergeant gave this account:

APR 22 1941

Keeton attempted to serve a warrant on Hatchell, who grabbed the constable's gun and blackjack and fled. Keeton reported the matter to Smithson, who a short while later found Hatchell in a dwelling in the Negro quarter of the community.

As the police chief entered the house Hatchell struck him over the head twice with the blackjack and fired several shots at him, one of which struck Smithson in the hand. The chief fired at the Negro, hitting him in the stomach.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Sheriff Says
Death of Man
Was Accident

DEO 20 1941
Hale Was Carrying
Steaming Vat Of
Coffee Downstairs

PORTSMOUTH — A. M. Hale 38, while a prisoner in the Portsmouth jail, was fatally burned when a vat of steaming coffee which he was carrying spilled about his upper body last Thanksgiving morning, it was learned this week by the Guide.

Hale, who was the son of Granville Hale, of Glasgow St., well-known resident of the Mt. Hermon section, was serving a sixty-day sentence on charges of trespassing when he died. He was a "trusty" at the jail at the time and was assigned to kitchen duty

He was carrying, or helping to carry, a large quantity of coffee down stairs when he lost his balance, causing the boiling coffee to spill over him, it was stated.

SAYS "ACCIDENT" APR 20 1941

Sheriff Glover, when questioned about it by a Guide reporter this week, stated that "It was purely an accident. It was something that could easily happen in any home."

When asked whether or not the dummy elevator, connecting the three floors of the jail, was in working order, the sheriff said that it was not. The dummy elevator, on which the food, coffee and etc., might be transported to the various landings, has never operated efficiently, Sheriff Glover said.

After being scalded, Hale was immediately rushed to King's Daughters' Hospital where he was admitted as a patient. He died later that day in the hospital.

Funeral services were held the following Sunday at Grogan's Funeral Home with Dr. H. N. Johnson as the officiating minister.

15-1941

VIRGINIA

Richmond, Va. News-Leader
February 19, 1941

THE NEWS LEADER FORUM

[Letters to the Forum should be brief and clear; in general, they should not be beyond 150 words. The editor reserves the right to cut all articles that are too long. Communications must be accompanied by the name and address of the writer, though these, except in certain cases, need not be published. The News Leader cannot attempt to preserve or return unused letters to the Forum, unless these are accompanied by postage.]

CRIME'S DARK RELATIONSHIP TO POVERTY SET FORTH

Editor, The News Leader:

Sir.—Please allow me to thank you for your fine editorial of the 14th instant entitled "Local Homicide Sentences." The recent accounts of the high homicide rate and the comparatively short sentences become more startling because Negroes predominate the homicide field. Yet everybody who understands even the rudiments of social behavior knows that those groups and individuals from the lower tiers of community life invariably have the highest incidence of crime and disease and delinquency. Without attempting to assume the rôle of a thorough-going Marxist, who often alleges that all social maladjustment can be explained in terms of economic status, I am nevertheless inclined to believe that this economic status weighs heavily—more heavily than the matter of race. That there is a close correlation between economic status and crime every authentic study has proven; but that there is an equally close correlation between race and crime has yet to be conclusively demonstrated. In other words, intelligent students of the question expect more crime among Negroes for the reason such large percentage of Negroes are found within those community social and economic tiers whence criminals are recruited.

Instead, therefore, of regarding the less severe sentences as a subtle menace to the safety of the community, we should see them as highly complimentary to Judge Ingram, who seeks not only the vindication of the law for certain crimes, but he seeks to understand the criminals, and criminals understood are not so bad after all. Richmond in general and the Negro race in particular are fortunate in having a judge who is disinclined to impose sentences with a heartless severity upon a group that needs help far more than vengeance, even though that vengeance be legal. There is only one safe and certain way to reduce crime in a community and that is by raising the level of those masses that afford the criminals. Attempting to stamp out crime by meting out long sentences may satisfy the commu-

nity's subtle demand for vengeance, but it does not go to the root of the matter. And besides, it violates one of the fundamental principles of criminology in that it would use a human being as means to an end. Negroes of the deeper South have had long sentences imposed and they have time and again been lynched by the mob; but these methods have not cured crime among Negroes, just as a more privileged life has not cured it among the whites.

The very fact that these homicides are crimes of passion shows that the Negroes on certain lower levels lack the inhibitions that certain cultural opportunities bring about. The very things which keep the upper class Negroes from producing homicides will, when applied, reduce homicides among the lower elements. I cannot agree with those Negro leaders who look upon the less severe sentences as a subtle menace to the safety of the better class of Negroes. Being thus menaced is the penalty we must pay for being members of an underprivileged group and there is no humane reason why the burden of this penalty should fall upon a certain lowly segment of Negroes. Our lowly masses are not responsible for the situation and I am not willing to see saddled upon them the responsibility implied on severer prison sentences. The attempt of Judge Ingram to take into account the weightier matters involved in this appallingly high homicide rate is one of the bright spots in a very dark picture. It is safe then to say that crime may be traceable to our environment and heredity. About the latter we can do but little within a current generation, but much can be done about the former. And if all that can be done about the environment were done, crime will not vanish from Richmond, but it will be measurably reduced and this is the most that may be hoped for in the present stage of human evolution. When the emphasis in criminology was on punishment and repression the attempt to stamp out crime by severe sentences was quite understandable; but in this late day, when the emphasis is on reformation and reclamation, any such attempt is utterly indefensible!

GORDON B. HANCOCK.

Richmond, Va. News-Leader

May 20, 1941

Richmond Negroes Alarmed

Many embarrassing appeals from Negroes concerning a pending criminal proceeding are reaching The News Leader.

"Embarrassing" we style them for the reason that it always has seemed to us improper to discuss in the Forum or in the editorial columns the punishment of any person whose innocence was to be assumed until he had been proved guilty. Quite often, after the trial in a court of record, an appeal kept the case *sub judice* and to put it, in our judgment, beyond the permissible range of editorial treatment. Nothing could be said, in some instances, until too late for anything to be worth saying.

In the particular case we now have in mind, many Negroes seem to assume guilt and are predicting that punishment will be shamefully light. This is leading to a general protest that Negroes who commit crimes against persons of their own race are not regarded as seriously at the bar of criminal justice as a white offender against another white would be. One correspondent, discussing a current case, insists that the City of Richmond will be to blame for its crime until it has a Negro prosecutor to appear in cases that involved other Negroes.

At present, many Negroes insist, short sentences are encouraging colored criminals, or at best, are having no deterrent effect. Some fantastic tales are being told of what Negro "bad men" are supposed to have said concerning their intention of killing enemies whose death would be worth the brief time they would be imprisoned. In the present state of indignation among Negroes over the refusal of courts to impose heavy sentences in the average case or the death sentence in any case, it scarcely would be an exaggeration to say that a reign of terror exists. Some Negro leaders hold to the contrary view,

They believe that suspended sentences in some instances operate to keep Negro youths from becoming chronic crooks; but this, we believe, is distinctly the minority opinion.

What's to be done about this state of affairs? The Negroes are alarmed, undeniably and deeply alarmed. They are convinced that crime is on the increase because of the leniency of criminal courts. Respect for law may be diminished in the heart of the average Negro if he sees on the street a former culprit who got a suspended sentence for a felony, or "pulled" a few years only for cutting a throat. Must we conclude that these Negroes are justified in their complaints? Are any of our judges, with the best of intentions, experimenting too drastically with suspended sentences and specious theories of swift reform?

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Bus Driver Convicted Of Passenger Assault

FALLS CHURCH, Va.—Through The Fairfax County Association its legal adviser, Attorney James was organized in 1928. Its aims are for better Negro citizenship. H. Raby, the Fairfax County Colored Citizens Association success- in Fairfax County through: fuller fully prosecuted and obtained a use of the ballot, improvement in guilty conviction in 1941. Trial Justice Court of Fairfax County of a and public conveyance active white bus driver of the Washington - Maryland Coach Company last week on charges of participated in all county and civic affairs, promotion of better interracial feeling and boosting the county as a desirable place to live.

The driver, operating between Washington, D. C., and Falls Church, was accused of kicking a youth, George Coleman, recently as he was leaving the bus after an alleged argument between the two as to the amount dropped into the box for payment of his fare.

TEST CASE

The trial was a test case as a result of alleged continuous mistreatment of colored passengers by operators on that line. Witnesses say the drivers had been reported to company officials from time to time but no action was ever taken to remedy the situation.

Attorney Raby, who prosecuted the case, has been recently admitted to the Virginia bar and has offices in Alexandria, Va.

ASSOCIATION BEGAN
IN 1928

Afro-American
Baltimore, Maryland

White Attacker of Va. Woman to Appeal Fine

MAR 21 1941

RICHMOND—Fined \$25 for assaulting Mrs. Helen Johnson of 1944 Richmond Street with a brick, Ralph Oliver, white electrical worker, informed Justice E. C. Folkes of police court that he would appeal following his conviction on Saturday.

Mrs. Johnson, sister of Rats Henderson, well-known baseball player, charged that Oliver struck her with his fists, kicked her, and struck her with a brick at Coalter and Redd Streets on February 18.

Gave Slap for Kick

She said that the day before she boarded a Fairmount bus at Coalter and Redd, and when she asked Oliver to let her pass through the crowded aisle, he failed to move, and kicked her when she pressed past him. Mrs. Johnson said that she slapped Oliver for kicking her.

The next day she was on a Fairmount bus and when she got off Oliver got off also, and immediately attacked her, she said.

The white man admitted that he beat Mrs. Johnson on February 18, but insisted that he did so because she had attacked him without provocation the day before. He denied striking her with any weapon, and said that she fell, striking her head against the bus.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Says He Was Attacked By Arrested Man

Case Against
Wounded Victim
Is Continued

FORTSMOUTH—Officer T. J.

Follary, of the Portsmouth Police Department, reported that he shot a colored man who attacked him when the officer caught the man allegedly "in the act of stealing an automobile Saturday morning shortly after eight o'clock."

The officer stated that he was in the act of taking the injured man to the hospital when his car ran out of gas. Mr. Follary reported that he then got out of his car to stop a motorist in order to get the man to the hospital.

"I looked around and the Negro opened the door of the car and ran," Mr. Follary's report states.

At the time Mr. Follary said he did not know the identity of the wounded man.

In describing the shooting, the officer stated, "He attacked me and other officers were concealed on and, being in bodily fear, I shot him."

The bullet entered the man's lower abdomen, it was stated.

Detective L. C. Ellis Sunday arrested Walter Smith, 19, who was identified as the man Officer Follary shot. He was charged with unauthorized use of an automobile. In police court Monday morning the case was continued to June 17. The man's injuries were thought not to have been of a very serious nature.

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

Odell Waller

Gets Reprieve

DEC 13 1941

Governor of Virginia

Halts Execution On

Plea of Defense

DEC 13 1941

RICHMOND, Va.—The execution of Odell Waller, 24-year-old Negro sharecropper for shooting of his white landlord, Oscar Davis, at Gretna, Va., in 1940, in a dispute over crop shares, was stayed Tuesday until March 20, 1942, by Governor James H. Price, of Virginia, in response to appeals by Workers' Defense League attorneys for time for the Supreme Court of Appeals of Virginia to act upon a writ of habeas corpus which raises the poll tax issue.

Roanoke, Va., Times
July 27, 1941

Deserved Punishment

Convicted of accepting bribes, two Norfolk folk policemen have been sentenced to eighteen months apiece in the penitentiary. The story revealed at their trial was one of a disgraceful "shakedown"

involving a Negro woman who was told by the defendants that she had violated a State law in employing a 14-year-old foster daughter and that she faced arrest if she did not pay them fifty dollars. The

unless she paid them fifteen dollars and promised to pay the balance at a later date.

But in the meantime the police authority

officer stated, "He attacked me and other officers were concealed on the scene when the two policemen came around to collect the remainder of the money. Their arrest, trial and conviction followed.

Doubtless the swift justice that overtook the guilty pair will have a wholesome effect on other members of the Norfolk police department, if such there are, who might be tempted to engage in similar reprehensible practices. The policeman is the sworn guardian of the law. His conduct should be above reproach and when he stoops to illegal practices he not only puts himself beyond the pale of the law but brings reproach on an honorable and useful calling.

We are glad, therefore, that the Norfolk policemen who sought to "shake down" a poor Negro woman were exposed and brought to justice. The penitentiary term that faces them is a merited punishment for their disgraceful offense.

The petition for a writ of habeas corpus, filed last week in Virginia's highest court, uncovered an 1870 Act of Congress which, according to the Workers Defense League which is handling Waller's defense, may give the Supreme Court of the United States a new basis for holding payment of a poll tax unconstitutional as a qualification for voting. The court cannot act on the petition until it reassembles January 12, 1942, according to reports from Thomas H. Stone, of Richmond, and John F. Finerty, of New York, attorneys for Waller.

The poll tax issue was raised because Odell Waller was tried by

a jury composed exclusively of payers of Virginia's \$1.50 cumulative poll tax. The petition for a writ of habeas corpus presented proof that non-payers of poll taxes were systematically barred from voting lists and from grand and petit juries in Pittsylvania County, Va., where the trial occurred, and that not a single non-payer was found on any jury list. Of the 30,000 eligible voters in the county, only 6,000, about 20 percent paid their poll taxes in 1940.

15-1941

Chicago Bee
Chicago, Illinois

Mother In Last Minute Plea To Save Son's Life

By CECIL L. DUNGEY

In a last minute effort to save the life of her son, Odell Waller Mrs. Annie Waller will appear at Metropolitan Community Center church, 41st and South Parkway Sunday morning at 11 o'clock. She will also speak on Sunday night at the Ebenezer Baptist church at 8 o'clock and again on Monday night at the Parkway ballroom.

She is speaking under the auspices of the Cosmopolitan Community church Monday night. Mrs. Waller will address other meetings through Friday, before various trade organizations.

Waller, born in Gretna, Va., is 23 years of age. He won a reprieve from a death sentence on December 27 through the militant defense efforts of the Workers' Defense League, the NAACP, and the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters. The crime for which Odell Waller stands condemned is the outgrowth of conditions facing Negro and white sharecroppers in the South.

Waller's conviction and death sentence grew out of the slaying of his landlord, Oscar Davis, white plantation owner. The organizations which are fighting to save Waller from death in the electric chair in the Virginia penitentiary, where he is now being held, plans to appeal his case to the U. S. Supreme Court if necessary.

VIRGINIA

The Daily Worker
New York, N. Y.

Virginia Negro Boy in Danger

Of 'Lynch' Electric Chair

curred between 10:45 and 11 P. M.,
JAN 20 1941
Joe Mickens, a 15-year-old Negro boy of Waynesboro, Virginia, will be lynched in the electric chair on the trial of the State of Virginia against him for the rape of a white woman on Feb. 21 and another "rape" frame-up will be written into the record in blood—unless loud protests back up legal steps now being taken to appeal the case to the Virginia State Supreme Court.

The International Labor Defense which describes the frame-up as a "new Scottsboro case," yesterday made public its details. They are not original.

Last November Joe Mickens' mother sent him to the grocery store. He did not return. Mrs. Mickens learned that he was being held in jail for the unpaid balance of a \$14 fine for driving an automobile without a license. She managed to raise the required amount, but when she went to the police station she was informed that Joe had been removed to Roanoke for "safe-keeping"—he had "confessed to a crime which might bring on a race riot."

Joe's story is this: He was held in jail and questioned by ten detectives. They offered him liquor, which he refused. Then they offered him a drink which they said was root beer. After drinking it, he became dizzy. He remembers then that they put a rope around his neck and drew it tight. It would get tighter, they told him, unless he did as he was told by Police Chief Webb of Staunton. He remembers then that he was put in an automobile and that he signed a paper given him by a man known to him as "Lawyer Franklin."

The paper he signed was the "confession." A death verdict was returned against him exactly four hours after the start of his trial.

The white woman whom he was accused of attacking declared on the witness stand that she was "not sure" when asked to identify Joe as her assailant. Before she left the stand she was not sure even that she had been attacked at all.

On the night of Nov. 24, when the attack is supposed to have oc-

JOE MICKENS
JAN 20 1941
Joe Mickens had gone to the movies with a friend named Robertson who was not permitted to testify at the trial.

Leaving the theater at 10:30 Joe met his cousin, talked to him briefly, went straight home and to bed. He was asleep when his sister came home a little after 11.

On Feb. 21, the State of Virginia will pull a switch that will burn the life out of Joe Mickens—unless the people halt this legal lynching.

Amsterdam News
New York, N. Y.

MRS. WALLER STILL FIGHTING

JAN 20 1941
WASHINGTON, D. C.—New Year's Day was no holiday for Mrs. Annie Waller, engaged in a fight to save the life of her son, Odell Waller, 23-year-old Virginia sharecropper, facing a death sentence for the slaying of his landlord, Oscar Davis, during an argument over Waller's share in the season's crop.

Mrs. Waller came to Washington on New Year's Day with a prayer on her lips that 1941 would bring freedom for her son who she says killed Davis in self-defense. The son had been sentenced to die in the electric chair on December 27, but Governor James H. Price of Virginia granted a stay until March as the result of efforts of the Workers' Defense League which has assisted in the defense.

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SEEK WRIT FOR CONDEMNED VA. SHARECROPPER

Defender
Deny Odell Waller Was Tried By A Jury Of His Peers

FEB 1 1941

RICHMOND, Va.—The petition for a writ of error in the case of Odell Waller, condemned Pittsylvania county Va., sharecropper, was filed Thursday, Jan. 23, with the court of appeals here.

The petition cited 10 points of exception made by defense counsel during the trial of Waller last September 26 and 27 on a first degree murder indictment handed down by a Pittsylvania County grand jury Sept. 6 1940.

Waller's trial in September, before Judge Turner Clement, of Chatham, resulted in a "guilty" verdict and a sentence of death in the electric chair on Dec. 27, 1940.

The trial jury was composed of ten white farmers who, themselves, had sharecroppers on their land or employed farm labor, and two white business men. The entire trial jury panel was drawn from the list of qualified voters and under Virginia law, voting qualification includes the payment of the poll tax.

It is alleged in the petition for a Writ of Error that this procedure automatically denies a defendant the right of trial by a jury of his peers and thus is in conflict with Article 14 of the Federal Constitution.

Defense counsel points out that the tenant farmer, sharecropper and laborer in the South cannot earn enough to pay the poll tax and hence does not vote nor serve on either petit or grand juries.

Defense counsel further points out that while, in the last election, the national average of the population which voted was about 45 per cent only 12 per cent of the population of Virginia was permitted to vote or account of the inability of the lower income groups to pay the poll tax.

Governor Price of Virginia had previously granted a stay of execution to Waller from the original date to March 14 of this year in order that an appeal from the conviction could be made.

Senior Defense Counsel for Waller, Atty. Thomas H. Stone of Richmond and Atty. John F. Finerty of New York City, associate counsel in the case, will jointly present argument before the Virginia Court of Appeals for a Writ of Error on the case. Date for this argument will be set by the court within fifteen days from the time of filing the petition.

The Richmond Waller Defense committee and its national affiliates, as well as the Workers Defense League of New York and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the Sleeping Car Porters union are making a national issue of this case and have pledged to carry the matter to the Supreme Court of the United States unless Waller is freed of the charge of murder.

Journal and Guide
Norfolk, Virginia

Double Standard Justice

IN a recent issue of the University of Virginia News Letter, Mr. John S. Battle, of Charlottesville, a member of the Virginia State Senate, presents a strong case for reform of the system of administration of criminal justice in Virginia.

Mr. Battle argued for a phase of reform which would place the fixing of punishment in the hands of the judges, leaving the juries only to determine the guilt or innocence of the accused.

Often juries go astray in fixing punishment. The Richmond Times-Dispatch recently called attention to a case in which a Virginia jury sentenced a man to the penitentiary for five years for cutting off a cow's tail. It called attention to another case in which a Negro boy was sent to the penitentiary for four years for forging his father's name to a check for \$1.50.

The trouble with the jury system of fixing punishment is that juries usually permit their inherent prejudices to enter into their decisions. Juries are not judicial in their judgments as a rule. In the experience of this writer we have known one and the same jury to send a man to the chair for a crime for which it sent another man to the penitentiary for three years.

Double Standard of Justice

Another phase of the administration of justice which is badly in

need of reform is the accepted differential in the consideration by juries of cases in which Negroes have committed crimes against members of their race. A study of the records of any criminal court in Virginia or in the south for that matter will reveal that there is one standard of justice meted out to Negroes who commit crimes against white people and another standard for Negroes who commit crimes against Negroes.

Juries go so far as to find that a murder committed by a Negro should bring the extreme penalty if the victim is a white person, but the murderer should be dealt with rather leniently if the victim is a Negro.

For many years the Journal and Guide has called attention to this practice in our Virginia courts. We have cited many cases in point. We have called attention to particularly aggravated instances at the times that the occurrences took place. We are particularly pleased to find that two of our leading state newspapers, namely, the Richmond News-Leader and the Norfolk Ledger Dispatch have recently expressed views which coincide with ours.

Crime waves have occurred periodically in some of our Virginia cities. The homicide rate among Negroes is high at all times in all of them. Richmond is now undergoing a homicide wave. We find the News-Leader commenting that colored citizens are "predicting that the punishment will be shamefully light," meaning that the usual practice is going to prevail in the punishment of Negroes who kill other Negroes.

A Richmond correspondent of the News-Leader suggests that "the City of Richmond will be to blame for its crime until it has a Negro prosecutor to appear in cases that involve other Negroes," but the Norfolk Ledger-Dispatch disagrees with this method of solution and suggests:

What is needed is not a Negro prosecutor, because he would probably not be effective before a predominantly white jury, or white and colored jury. If, by chance, an all-Negro jury were charged with the duty of passing on the cases of accused Negroes, we should see justice severely, even harshly administered. When responsible Negroes

are entrusted with the task of overseeing other Negroes, they discharge their trust with unbending firmness.

We do not agree in full with our neighbor, the Ledger-Dispatch. We are in agreement that more intelligent and level-headed Negroes should be integrated into petit juries. We are not quite prepared to believe that an all-Negro jury would inflict unduly harsh punishment upon a member of their race convicted of crime. We do believe, however, that such a jury, or a jury mixed as to the races, would come closer to reaching the proper judgment and administering the proper punishment in a given case.

From experience we can say that the attitude of white juries is entirely different in their disposition of cases involving Negroes only, from what it is in the disposition of cases involving Negroes and whites, or cases involving all white people. This is a distinct reflection upon the administration of criminal justice in our courts and it should be corrected.

JUN 14 1941